

Public Libraries

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Canadian Libraries and the War*

George H. Locke, Chief librarian, Public library, Toronto, Canada

[Mr Locke expressed his appreciation of the warm welcome extended to him and said how much more comfortable he felt officially now that we are brethren in the common cause. He referred to the plea that had been so eloquently made on the previous day for books on mathematics when it was emphasized that old editions would be as welcome as new ones for mathematics changed but little. He ventured the hope that there would not be too many copies of some of the old *histories* sent to the camps. Speaking of the organization of the camp libraries in the United States he said that it was a joy to him to follow as he had done the marvellous development of that work, an efficiency in organization that he had never seen equalled. He explained how it was that Canadian libraries could not join in the A. L. A. camp movement 1) because they had already been at war some years and had been forced to make use of the nearest instrument to hand and 2) because of the difference in method of training and movement of troops. "We are not too old to learn," said he, "and I have followed with interest the details of your organization, many points of which we have adopted." Mr Locke told some anecdotes of the war and cited some illustrations to make clearer some of the local difficulties in the great nation to the north.]

To a nation or rather a colony—for we are not ashamed of being a colony—with no standing army, with no regular troops and no garrisons, the great war came with a suddenness that was terrific in its effect. It is true we were not close to the war and

liable to invasion. Therefore we were not panic stricken in any way. But we were so far from the centre of difficulties and so imbued with the idea that war was impossible because of the peacefulness of our immediate neighbors, that we could only with difficulty realize that war was on. But we recovered our breath, sent over to London our good wishes, and offered to help out with men and munitions, our principal munition being wheat and flour.

We did not wait for our offer to be accepted. The wheat and flour left in the first available steamers. The "fiery cross" set all the country aflame and thirty-three thousand men gathered at Valcartier near the historic port of Quebec, the flower of the nation and eager for the fray.

Everything was done in feverish eagerness and within six weeks of the declaration of war this Armada left the historic port of Quebec to help the Motherland. We were in it because Britain was in it and we were to stay in it because it was a fight for justice, liberty, and the right of the small and weak.

As Sir Wilfrid Laurier expressed it on the eve of the sailing of the Armada:

"We are British subjects and to-day we are face to face with the consequences which are involved in that

*Read before the American library association at Saratoga, July 3, 1918.

proud fact. Long have we enjoyed the benefits of our British citizenship; to-day it is our duty and our privilege to accept its responsibilities; yes, and its sacrifices. It is our duty, more pressing on us than all other duty, at once, on this first day of debate in the Canadian Parliament, to let Great Britain know, that there is in Canada but one mind and one heart, and that all Canadians stand behind the Mother Country, conscious and proud that she did not engage in war from any selfish motive, for any purpose of aggrandizement, but that she engaged in war to maintain untarnished the honour of her name, to fulfill her obligations to her allies, to maintain her treaty obligations, and to save civilization from the unbridled lust of conquest and power."

For every man who went five had volunteered and at once we began the work of training in our various camps the reinforcements which we knew would be necessary. The work was carried out with an intensity of purpose and a feverish haste, both of which were natural in the face of the great emergency, but which made drill and food the great essentials of the moment. When, however, the work of the camps got into its stride, so to speak, it was seen that the organized force of the Y. M. C. A., which was handling with such great success the canteens, was the best agency through which to help the soldier in his leisure and sometimes lonely hours. The public libraries near the training camps, the schools in the larger cities, the church and the clubs became the feeders of the Y. M. C. A. canteens and there poured in books and magazines in great quantities. The work was not highly organized and was indifferently done as one might suppose in the midst of the confusion of the early days. It might have been done better if we had had the warning and experience of other nations. With us the personnel of the camps was changing so rapidly because of the use of training camps in England, that we consid-

ered that backing up the Y. M. C. A. was our best plan. And we did. What we might have done if there had been time to organize would make quite another story. Certainly we should have done it "on our own" as you are doing and not trusted to any other organization.

When there was a great winter camp at the National Exhibition grounds at Toronto in 1915, the Toronto public library installed a War Camp library of specially selected books in charge of a librarian from its own staff, who now is serving in the artillery in France. This was greatly appreciated by the men, so much so that many of the books accompanied them abroad. When the camp broke up, the library was kept in readiness for use and when the Y. M. C. A. opened their Red Triangle hostel in Toronto this library was given place in their building, where to-day it is doing duty for the returned soldier.

And so from Victoria in the extreme west, where Miss Helen Stewart, the librarian, not satisfied with providing for the men in camp, went herself to the Front for a year and a half as a voluntary worker, and since her return has been providing for the men in hospital, in camp, and in vocational training centres; to Calgary and Edmonton, where the public libraries have co-operated with the military Y. M. C. A., and furnished books and magazines to the great Sarcee Camp; to Regina and Moose Jaw, where Camp Hughes of that province was supplied by those public libraries with books through the chaplains and the military Y. M. C. A.; to Winnipeg, where there were many soldiers and where the public library established special reading rooms, branch loan stations, and furnished discarded books to the Camps and departing military trains; to Ottawa, which co-operated with the Y. M. C. A., bought quantities of inexpensive but interesting reprints for the camp and opened rooms for instructional purposes; to Westmount, Quebec, where Miss Saxe organized the

women of the city in her usual efficient manner, this work, new then to all the world, has been in progress.

And of the library with which I am identified let me say that we supplied 25,000 books, most of which were from our own stock, some given to us, and some specially purchased by us. The range of our activities may be seen when I enumerate the soldier circles which we have entered by peaceful penetration. Camp Borden; Niagara camp; Exhibition camp, which had the first "War library" on the the continent; Barriefield camp in Eastern Ontario; Ketchum barracks; Ravina barracks; Gerrard barracks; Gerrard base hospital; Spadina hospital; College hospital; Kapuskasing internment camp; Muskoka sanitarium; Great War Veterans' club; Maple Leaf club; and Red Triangle club.

We had no government aid and little government sympathy. We were not disappointed in this, for we have been identified too long with the promotion of intelligence in communities to hope for immediate and complete recognition.

But what was the most important result of all our efforts was the feeling, new to many in our country that libraries were a necessity to the communities and that they had a definite value. In many places there had been a vague and hazy feeling that this was so but now this became clear and definite.

It was a war which needed explanation and description. It came without any warning and in the midst of peaceful unpreparedness. At once, the library was discovered as the place for public information and was visited and talked about. It became socially recognized. Where there was an efficient librarian or an intelligent board this responsibility was greatly welcomed, in other cases there was a local panic or a hopeless recrimination.

But more than this it was a war which demanded intelligent mobilization of social effort, and the knowledge that here in a town was a social insti-

tution already established which could be used came almost as a shock. There were no sectional, denominational, or social jealousies to be considered in the use of this public institution and so it became the organizing centre for all the committees engaged in patriotic effort.

As a result the public library has become better known in the community and in its case to be better known is to be better appreciated. Library grants were not cut by the Municipal Councils except in some isolated communities handicapped by poor library boards who had little or no influence in the community.

And now we have had over three years of experience, and let me give you the cheering word that appropriations for public libraries in the province of Ontario have advanced 40 per cent and that circulation of books has increased 35 per cent. This has not come without effort, and most of all in Ontario, we owe our progress to the superintendent of public libraries for the province, Mr W. O. Carson, to whom be praise and honour, a government official all too rare, full of energy and intelligence in regard to every phase of his work.

There may be a tendency in some places to neglect the regular work for the special and more spectacular. There is a glamour about war work, there is a feeling with many persons and institutions—if such can be said to have feelings—that there must be the "soldier contact" and that to miss that experience is to be neglectful of one's duty. We have passed through this stage. It has been difficult sometimes to persuade people that to do their work efficiently and to co-operate so far as time and strength will permit in the patriotic efforts is the best way to serve their country. An efficient cataloger is restless to become a Red Cross worker at which she would be put an average person. Her idea is that she will then be doing something for her country—especially if she had a uniform.

And this same phase of unrest imperils our libraries themselves. The spectacular work of the camps and of societies in connection with patriotic effort—all necessary to be done and to be encouraged—makes our regular work of supplying information and going through the routine of daily duties, the keeping of the home fires seem gray and uninteresting. Let me warn you as one who has come through this and is now interested in the soldiers who are returning in large numbers maimed and broken in health but cheerful and wanting to get into harness again, that the public library which has been kept lively—not merely alive—in the interval will have won its very way into the lives of the people to such an extent that it will be the centre for co-operation with government commissions, schools, vocational training centres, hospitals, convalescent homes and thus will be a positive and permeating influence.

That is what we are trying to do in Toronto. We have many discouragements, but we are not easily cast down. There is a big job ahead of us in trying to get suitable literature to the convalescent soldier in hospital, rest home and club. This will be difficult, as we have found already, for government officials often "fancy themselves" and their choice of books is too often without intelligence. I am sure from your experience you can picture the official who says that anybody can run a library and choose books. He is sure he can and does not see the obvious moral the librarian draws.

In this connection let me urge that you keep your work organized for the years after the war and you may be able to help very definitely the soldier in his efforts to re-educate himself. The theory that the unambitious man can be made ambitious by education or that the war can bring out ambition and talents in a man who had them not is a fallacy that needs to be delt with at once. We are suffering from some of that kind of false educational doctrine in our efforts towards re-education.

We are on the threshold of a vast educational undertaking, too vast and far reaching for most of our educators just as the conduct of the war itself has been too vast for those trained under former conditions. Let us throw aside that faith in experience which hampered the early conduct of the war and which will likely hamper us in dealing with that most conservative social force, Education. Let us acknowledge that experience is not the great thing needful, but youth with its imagination, hope and energy and we in Canada who were forced to remain at home and deal with the prosaic, are trying to place the institution with which we are identified as prominently on the map of political and social intelligence, as our representatives in Europe have placed our country on the map of the world nations.

We are a nation of less than eight millions of people in a vast country which is bounded by three oceans and a friendly neighbor. We have equipped and sent to the great war 500,000 men; we have manufactured 50 millions of shells, 45 millions of cartridge cases, and sent millions of bushels of wheat to needy France and starving Belgium.

And in every good work in which we have a chance to help—or could make a chance—the institution which I have the honor to represent, the Public library, has been "on the job" and whenever possible, led the way. We expect to be even more necessary and more useful in the reconstruction days to come and are trusting to your great and efficient organization to help us in the great work.

"Have you Prometheus Bound?" a patron asked the young and inexperienced apprentice at the loan desk.

Having never heard of this well-known classic in all her young life, the young lady looked rather dumb for a moment and then, as a bright idea struck her, flew madly back to the librarian and said, "Oh, Mrs Warren, has Prometheus come back from the bindery yet?"

The School and the Teaching of Patriotism*

Rachel Baldwin, Allegheny high school, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Have you sat through a High school chapel period in the last year? Have you seen the flag borne in to the sound of bugles, while the whole school springs to its feet and lustily shouts forth the national anthem? Have you felt the thrill of response as some returned soldier tells of hardships and heroism "over there"? Have you seen 300 youngsters out of 800 rise in answer to a call for Liberty Loan four-minute speakers? Have you seen every hand go up in a pledge to "go without pie or something" to buy a typewriter for a crippled soldier? Have you heard them sing "Keep the home fires burning" over and over, as though they could not let it go? Then you know that it is not so much a matter of teaching patriotism as of directing it. Of course, there are always apathetic individuals and thoughtless ones and some who are "against us," but let us hope that this minority is small and growing smaller every day.

There are many patriotic agencies at work in the high school and most of them act upon the sound principle that one never loves a cause or a country till he has worked and sacrificed for it. The Red Cross calls on every student for service—witness the omnipresent knitting bags of the girls, and the hospital furniture turned out by the boys in the "shop."

The Food Administration lays its mandates upon the domestic economy classes and gives gardening advice to the biology department. The whole school may organize itself into a band of Liberty Bond salesmen; while Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. keep alive the ideals of fitness and service.

Where does the school library come in? Everywhere. There is no activity of the school that it cannot touch at some point or other.

Nothing is easier at present than to stimulate war patriotism. Maps of campaigns, pictures of soldiers and sailors, clippings from the daily papers when

pinned upon the bulletin board are eagerly studied. The morning paper is passed from one to another, and one librarian can testify that nowadays "the front page" can almost hold its own with the "funnies" and the sporting news.

Never were magazines so invaluable. A carefully selected collection of wide range as to subject matter, forms an excellent browsing field and the wise librarian knows how to attract attention to interesting articles. Who would expect to see a boy of 17 pounce upon the Atlantic, carry it off to a corner and greedily read for half an hour? Yet this has the gallant aviator, James Norman Hall, done for that dignified periodical.

They like the Princeton and Harvard alumni bulletins, too, for the boyish letters of Stuart Walcott and others of our soldiers in France. Anything that has to do with a submarine or aeroplane is eagerly devoured, and I have discovered that the extreme popularity of the *Scientific American* and *Popular Mechanics* is in part due to their pictures and descriptions of the engines of war.

It is impossible to keep war books on the shelves. Of course, personal narratives like "Private Peat," "Over the top," and "Flying for France" make the widest appeal; but many a High school student responds to the robust idealism of "A Student in arms," and can intelligently follow Mr H. G. Wells' lucid and practical analyses of the world situation.

Most of the girls of that age, true to type, prefer the adventures of women, and to steer them away from the growing and mostly sentimental mass of war fiction, we have the books of Miss Aldrich and Mme Huard, the slight but inspiring "Mlle Miss" and others. "My home in the field of mercy" appeals particularly. The girls are facing decisions, as well as the boys, and who can say how many young soldiers and nurses have found their inspiration in the High school library?

Both boys and girls seem to love the war poetry. Service and Rupert Brooks and the anthologies are kept busy, and

*Read before the School libraries section, A. L. A., Saratoga, July 5.

woe to the librarian who neglects to clip or index everything good in newspaper or magazine! Her sin will find her out before many days.

The library has had its opportunity, too, to put this war enthusiasim to work in its own behalf as the successful book campaigns of last March have proved. The students showed a real interest that warmed one's heart as the books poured in with such comments as "Gee, this is some book campaign!" "Look what we've got, Over the top, 'n Treasure Island 'n everything good." "I guess the boys'll like to get those," etc., etc.

All this follows the line of least resistance, and serves only to pave the way to our real work. Librarians and teachers have missed their greatest opportunity if they have not utilized the stimulated imagination of our young people, and developed their enthusiasm for one great cause into a solid, practical and constructive patriotism that will give generous and loyal service to our country in peace as well as in war.

The high school boys and girls of today are the citizens of tomorrow and now is the time to give them an understanding of our institutions, respect for our country's laws, and an eagerness for service. They must not grow into that all-to-common type of patriot that nowadays goes to the "movies" applauds the flag, hisses the Kaiser, rises for the Star Spangled Banner, and goes home, feeling that he has "done his bit." There is not much danger of this, for most of the agencies rousing the students' emotions call for definite work to be done; however, let us relate this energy to the bigger questions of life, and carry it into the future. This war will last perhaps five years. What are our citizens going to do with our country in the next fifty?

We turn first to the civics teachers, and find them thinking along the same lines, and depending upon the library for help. During the Liberty Bond campaigns the students, in working up four-minute speeches, delved into our history, as well as into the intricacies of our financial institutions, and caught the spirit of sacrifice for a cause.

Interest is stimulated in live topics of the day, such as the Supreme Court decision in the Child Labor Law, our duty to the new democracy of Russia, the conscription of labor, the menace of mob law, etc.

I know of one teacher of English who works out her study of Lincoln's speeches into debates on just such vital questions.

Current topics are in demand in many English, civics and history classes, also the study of editorials, of argument, of exposition. What wonderful opportunities for the librarian! She is called upon many times a day to help choose subjects and find examples; and a little wise steering will usually guide the student to an article of civic value—perhaps one that will open to him a real door into a new interest. An intelligent use of the magazines and daily papers is an important by-product of this reference work. Many who have not heretofore had even a speaking acquaintance with a periodical of good standing will learn to like and read for themselves *Century*, *Scribners*, *The Outlook*, yes, and *The Atlantic*, beloved of us wiser ones. War articles are of course the bait, but students can also be interested in Katharine Mayo's stories of the New York and Pennsylvania state police, and they will follow the careers of Ben Lindsay and Thomas Mott Osborne through many numbers. Meanwhile they are learning what a vital, growing thing is our government and how well worth pride and service is our country. The science classes can be helped to realize the value of conservation through well arranged files of *Farmers' Bulletins* and other government documents. In fact, the intelligent use of these publications will open young people's eyes to the variety of government activities as no study of a textbook could do.

All this reference work should lead to a taste for good books, for it stimulates, mends and opens unexpected fields of interest. The students of our immigration laws will be interested to read the experiences of Steiner, Riis, Mary Antin, Ravage and others, which will be displayed

conspicuously by the wise librarian. The fact that others have gone through so much to obtain our blessings will cause us to realize them more fully; and such clear-sighted criticisms as those of Ravage in "An American in the making" will set us to thinking and modulate the Eagle's scream.

This war is opening our provincial eyes. We may well turn our attention to the glorious past of other countries, and the devotion of their great men. High school children are still full of hero worship; great literature is full of material for it, and while the school curriculum has appropriated much of it, there is still a wide field where the reader may browse at will.

One boy has read everything on the Polish struggle from Thaddeus of Warsaw, through Sienkiewicz to "When the Prussians came to Poland"! A girl thrilled by "The Admiral's ghost" has soaked herself in that wonderful period of the sea rovers on the Spanish Main.

Kipling's robust imperialism appeals to young people, but in talking over a vol-

ume of his stories, you may find that the favorite is the "Brushwood boy," the dreamy lad, with his code of "the things no fellow can do," or the "Ship that found herself," that glorification of team-work. Devotion to our own heroes is never failing. A boy will take out a volume of Whitman for the sake of "Captain, my captain!" and you can get him to read "The Virginians" by telling him that George Washington comes into it. Modern fighters for right and order arouse interest. Jane Addams, Booker Washington, General Goethals and his government of the Canal Zone, President Wilson—and the connection between their achievements and our responsibilities is not hard to make.

I wish that every high school student could read and understand Galsworth's "Speculations" in the April *Harper*, and Wells' "In the fourth year"; which brings us back to the war again, to a realization of the place our country must take in the regeneration of the world, and to our opportunities for training its future citizens.

Is It Worth While?*

*(A talk by Adam Strohm, A. L. A. librarian at Camp Gordon, at the camp librarians' symposium, American Library Association Conference, Saratoga Springs, on Thursday morning, July 4, 1918.)

He said in part:

In an attempt to answer this question we would better have two considerations in view:

Is it worth while to the men in camp to have these library facilities?—and

Is it worth while to the librarian to assume the responsibility of this camp service?

Considering the first point, our presence in camp is justified only if we bring to the service a professional or special ability not available through any other organized educational agency in the camps.

In order to realize this it is quite necessary that all good, competent librarians stand ready to enlist or accept appointments in the field.

Our experience has shown that stability of service and continuity of policy may be maintained only by means of a professional personnel. The idea of "replacement" in camp libraries has not proven successful.

The best interest of our men will be served if we approach this whole problem from a *national* point of view. Every effort, every policy must be directed to make the man fit to meet his task intelligently. We must forget any possible "glory" attached to our assignment, be it individual prestige or the reflected glory that may come to our home institution.

The camp libraries are not "just like city libraries"; they are special libraries for a special purpose. The need of books for development and understanding of the war and its technique is obvious.

The essential thing is to get these

books and devote our skill to the making of men for a special purpose. The only purpose of this whole activity is to win the war.

In the last two months we have progressed even beyond the military aspect of the war. All at once America has discovered Europe. Policies and motives have changed. We realize that underneath the military tragedies and victories is the consciousness that the American nation and our fighting men are going forward in the spirit of idealism, in the defense of manhood.

There is an exultation that comes from direct service. Throughout the civilized world there is "a war beneath the war," and we are jointed in something that quickens our hearts.

It is essential that the men who fight have books on the underlying causes of the war, books that analyze this epoch. Before everything we must call these to the attention of the men, and know them ourselves, for our professional and personal influence has a great deal to do in arousing spirit in the men. In so far as they can realize that out of the mud and blood will arise a new social order, a new Europe, a new world, so they will go into the supreme test in a spirit of confidence and righteousness.

In considering if it is worth while to the librarian to give such service, it is difficult to articulate one's feelings. Is it worth while to be alive? Is it worth while to be in our country's service, even in this humble way?—to have the extraordinary privilege of working exclusively with our men?

Perhaps public library service will learn many things from camp libraries. We should be able to so arrange our service, that the attractions of the camp library can be introduced there—so that the freedom and informality of the camp library will be felt in the public library as well. In the camp library, all men are alike, and mingle. The librarian is not a controlling master, but is the servant of all, and detailed for a common purpose. The service is one of working things out together.

Something may be said in anticipa-

tion of the status of libraries after war. Our soldiers will return from their duties abroad, to civilization, with recollection of what the country has done for them, with recollection of the service librarians have rendered. This realization will help insure future support of public libraries, and will place all public service on a different basis. Public service will be an honor, representing duties to be exacted from men and women.

The employment of men or women in camps is not an important question. A man or a woman will make a successful camp librarian, if he or she is a good librarian, not because he or she is a man or a woman.

We are in this work because opportunity has offered it. We are in it for usefulness and service, and for the highest ideals. We will win by cooperation and by nothing else. This is true of library war service more than of any other civilian service in camps. There is no special "glory" connected with our work. We are dressed in uniform, but no deeds of military valor go with it. We are civilians working in bombproof positions; we are not even "privates." Ours is the humblest duty in camp. No "service" star should be draped in our honor; but all people who are giving something of themselves, whether the women in the kitchens, the workers in the factories, the civilians in the various camp welfare organizations, all who are giving heartily and generously to the great cause will have added a star in the firmament of hope, light and justice to which an anxious world is looking.

What a Man Reads in a Hospital

Miriam E. Carey

What a man reads in a hospital depends on two things: the man himself and the supply of books.

To put a man to bed does not change him fundamentally. His education, tastes and habits remain unaltered when he lays aside his uniform and dons pajamas and a bath robe. His

reading will be influenced by all his personal endowments and qualities.

The character and degree of his illness will also have much to do with what he reads. If his is a surgical case he will have time and strength to read more than he ever read before, and he will ask for the kinds of books he has always preferred. He will want to keep up with his studies and will do some serious work while he is in confinement.

If he is quarantined for mumps or measles, as so many of our "heroes" have been, he will need first of all to be diverted. Detective stories and the cowboy-and-wild-West tales are what he craves.

The state of a man's mind—whether he is worried about his family or merely home-sick, will influence his choice of books. He may have to be coaxed before he will take the trouble to read.

The supply of books must also be adequate to meet the needs of foreign-born soldiers who know only their mother tongue. Then there are those American-born men whose education is so rudimentary that they must have very simple English, very clear print and plenty of pictures in order to read at all.

There must be technical books for the soldier-students; good, stirring fiction for the depressed, home-sick and anxious; and for the suffering, scrap-books, things easy to hold, and pictures.

Given a supply of books equal to these varied demands and the soldiers in the hospitals will read more in a given time than their more fortunate fellows who have more freedom but less leisure.

For Distribution

The Cleveland public library has received several hundred copies of *The Honorable Peter White: a biographical sketch of the Lake Superior iron country*, by Ralph D. Williams, 286 p. illus., Penton Publishing Co., Cleveland, 1907. These are for use in the

camp libraries or in any other way in which they may be of service, and after sending forward those which can be used in the camps, the remainder are available for any libraries which will send the postage. The weight of the volumes is a little over two pounds.

Preservation of Newsprint Stock

Mr H. M. Lydenberg of the New York public library set out in a most interesting way many important facts with regard to the discontent with newsprint stock, preservation in libraries, in his paper before the A. L. A. at Saratoga, N. Y.

He said in part:

The New York public library began experimenting in 1914 toward the solution of the problem of preservation of American newspapers of the last 25 years, or of the time when ground pulp superseded rags for newsprint stock. The experiment proved that no chemical preparation on the market would give satisfactory results, but a practical solution lay in the use of thin transparent silk or a transparent Japanese tissue paper. The volumes used in the experiment were subjected to ordinary uses, and at the end of six months it was found that the results justified the undertaking except that the expense of the treatment was more than the library could afford. The cost amounted to \$35 per volume, at best, but even with the adaptation of certain machinery \$25 was the lowest cost obtainable.

A communication was sent to the New York city papers telling them of the conditions and asking them to co-operate, with the result that only one paper responded, and with that the results have been thoroughly satisfactory. Further experiments in 1917-18 developed that flexible varnish was satisfactory in practically every respect, but at the moment of writing this conclusion, it was found impossible to take up the matter because the materials required were requisitioned by the Government. The conclusion of the libra-

ry was, therefore, that the matter would remain in abeyance until conditions once more became normal, at least in so far as the chemical field is concerned. The library has decided to continue binding in Japanese tissue the one paper cooperating and any other that will pay the additional cost for that method of preservation. This Japanese tissue method is far and away the best, all things considered, the chief disadvantage being the cost. The strength of the paper is increased over 200 per cent. there is an absolute exclusion of air, a very strong deterrent against chemical disintegration of the wood pulp stock.

This question of paper stock is one

of the most serious problems that confront reference collections. The bleaching elements used on the stock insure with almost absolute certainty complete disintegration within a period of a few years. Books of prime importance will be reprinted from time to time on paper made from rags. The great loss will be in the ephemeral matter which in itself is too slight to justify reprinting, but which taken in mass offers a basis for investigation of current opinion in almost any line of human activity. Newspapers will shortly disappear from large, busy libraries and be preserved in antiquarian societies, who perhaps will be able to do something towards preserving them.

In the Letter Box

Lists Wanted

To the Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

May I ask American librarians to be kind enough to send me copies of any special bibliographies or reference lists they may publish? I am collecting material for a universal bibliography and already have some three million titles arranged in order of subjects. This will, I hope, ultimately be made available for public use as there is no subject catalog on a really large scale in this country. I already have to thank the Library of Congress and the New York public library for large donations.

Faithfully yours,

R. A. PEDDIE.

Saint Bride Foundation,
Bride Lane, Fleet St.,
London, E. C.

Requirements Again

My Dear Editor:

I want to ask Miss Hasse, apropos of her article in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for July, if she feels quite confident that the art of being a "careful person" in cataloging is not after all a matter of having arrived at mature judgment.

For example, does an eighth grade girl possess the judgment to look carefully into prefaces and introductions for editor and other pieces of knowledge about a book that are often needed,—to determine whether an editor is sufficiently important to have a card in the catalog,—judgment to examine carefully contents and decide on valuable analytics,—judgment enough to decide that a series is sufficiently important to require a series card,—judgment enough to take initiative in examining the catalog to weed out old cards which may have become useless (as some analytics come to be in course of time),—judgment and initiative enough, finally, to keep the catalog carefully up to date in its subject entries (a thing which seems to me to require an immense amount of both judgment and intelligence)? In our department, we should hesitate to turn over such work to a girl just out of the eighth grade. Her work would require so large an amount of supervision, that we who watched her should have no time left to do reference work, after all.

Very truly yours,
A "CAREFUL CATALOGER."

Duplicates

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

A circular received recently from the Architectural Book Publishing Company, New York City, advertises "Lessons on Form," by A. Blunck, as a "just published" book.

I find that the library has already an earlier edition, purchased in 1905, with this added information on the title-page: "Written and drawn at special request of the Prussian Ministry of Commerce and Industry, translated from the German by David O'Connor."

As I have written the publishers to find out in what ways this new edition differs from the old, and have received no response to the inquiry, it will be of interest for librarians to know what may be gleaned from the circular. The pagination of the two inside pages agrees exactly with the earlier edition, but there is one change which surely brings the book right up-to-date. Page 66 contains five lines of "artificial forms." The first two are identical with the earlier edition, while the third, fourth and fifth are now made to read as follows:

Old version: New version!

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| (3) Fürst König | Red Cross |
| (4) Kaiser | Wilson |
| (5) Berlin, 99 | Pershing |

That fifth line looks as though the book might have been first published in 1899. Why not put the date after Pershing? "Pershing in Berlin 1919"!!!

HAROLD T. DOUGHERTY,
Librarian.

Free library, Newton, Mass.

Proceedings for Distribution

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Will you be kind enough to call the attention of librarians to the fact that back issues of the Proceedings of the Pacific Northwest library association are available at the nominal expense of ten cents in stamps, to cover mailing, envelope, etc.? The last issue is especially valuable, since it contains Mr Ridington's paper on the Poetry of the war, delivered at Portland, September, 1917. The Proceedings may be obtained from Miss Jacqueline Noel, Public library, Portland, Oregon.

War Libraries in Action

[Somewhere in France,]

June 10, '18

This is just to give you a general idea as to whether I am alive or not. Starting with the drive of May 27, we had our first real work. For a while, our cars were working night and day distributing the wounded of all nationalities among the hundreds of hospitals within a radius of 20 miles. But now our hands are full taking care of the Americans alone, which, at present, we are bringing from a point some 40 kilometres north of here. They are marked up quite a bit, but intend to return as soon as they can get patched up. Their spirits are excellent.

As yet, we ourselves haven't been in a situation to see much that looks like a battle except air-raids and Bertha balls. Some of the fellows claim to have heard the shrapnel of our own anti-air-craft barrage pattering on the roof and sidewalks, but Williams and I have watched and listened in vain for it at every raid. Tonight, Williams suggests that we leave a pan outside the window and then, if there's a raid, we won't have to get up. It's always someone else, too, that has just dodged a Bertha ball, while the most hair-raising experience that I have had around here is dodging taxies, which act like so many pollywogs as far as traffic laws are concerned. Not that I mind hitting them at all—it's the red tape that follows that is objectionable. After all, Bertha makes very little impression and is treated with indifference, while air raids are 99% barrage.

Apropos libraries: we have one with us that claims to be the only one of its kind in the neighborhood—at least, the only one of its kind with four shelves. It has zig-zagged six or seven hundred miles around France and there are still as many volumes (100) as when it left Pennsylvania, U. S. A. But the unique thing about it is the continual appearance of fresh books. A couple of dozen were traded from another section once, but for the most part the new books just naturally appear on the shelves as we move from one place to another, and without any reviewing or other preliminary processes except accessioning, which is mostly informal. Occasionally we write in a mark of ownership but more often there is one already there.

Practically all the unnecessary records, kept by contemporary libraries have been dispensed with. After a little observation, we have come to the conclusion that no one gives a rap about an accession number, the source or any other of those clerical statistics about a book. All they want to know is, who's next on it, and they can always find that out from the one that has it.

As to inventory, we feel that it is useless. If a volume is not on the shelf, it must be out, and an inventory couldn't tell much more.

Like all other institutions, we succeed in maintaining as high a standard of reading as possible. In fact, we hold that the reading matter per se is even more important than the color or binding of the book. In order to emphasize this attitude, we pay very little attention, if any, to rebinding—you ought to see the "Clue of the twisted candle"; Smith's got the last six chapters and cover in bed with him now, with Williams next on it. The rest of it is out, too, except the frontispiece.

In regard to rules and restrictions, the intention is to be as liberal as results will permit. There are absolutely no rules about taking out books and only one about bringing them in: that is to fetch back every book that one can lay hands on, anything that lies exposed, as the chances are that it belongs to someone and will get lost if left lying around. In this way, not only is the circulation stimulated and a taste for foreign literature cultivated, but a certain pride is inculcated in each individual borrower, a pride in the library that he has helped to build up. And as far as administration, economy and running expenses are concerned, the darn thing is automatic.

I hope I'll get back to school within a couple of years at least; this war can't last forever, or, if it should, they probably will get it systematized a little better so that we can all have sabbatical leaves when it comes our turn. Nothing seems strange any more. I saw a man with a wooden leg walking along, carrying another one over his shoulder. That seemed strange to me at first until someone reminded me that the case was no different from that of an auto with an extra tire. That thing over his shoulder was a spare leg.

HERMANN O. PARKINSON.

Free Red Cross Material

A letter from H. R. Heydon, chief of the Red Cross department of Public Education, sends a request that librarians be urged to prepare as complete a supply as possible of literature and reference books on the subject of disabled soldiers and to use all legitimate means to call public attention to them. The Red Cross has published much material that will be supplied upon request on condition that it be placed on reading tables and the fact brought to the attention of the public that the Government has made such satisfactory provision for the rehabilitation of crippled soldiers. This is a definite work, strictly in line with the duty of public libraries, and moreover, it gives the opportunity which many

librarians are seeking for more direct service. Despite the fact that so much has been printed, it is not definitely known among a large number of people that the War department has jurisdiction from the time the soldier is injured until he has completely recovered his health, and that the Federal Board for Vocational Education will then train him to return to useful occupations. If librarians would take it on themselves to make this fact widely known it would be a great contribution to this very valuable work and will be a direct service for which so many librarians are seeking an opportunity. The Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled Men at 311 Fourth Ave., New York City, will be very glad to give further information and as much material as can be profitably used, in answer to any appeal.

Samples Wanted

The Library of Congress is making a collection of the various bookplates used in connection with the A. L. A. War Service. Will librarians and other A. L. A. workers send to Mr R. W. Ashley, Superintendent of Reading room, Library of Congress, copies of any bookplates which come to their notice, other than the blue-gray label which was pasted on the outside of the books, and Mr C. B. Falls' reduced poster?

A Loan

The Cleveland public library has several copies of a fifty foot film "trailer" making a plea for gifts of books to the Camp libraries.

It will gladly loan these films to other libraries on request.

The suggestion comes that librarians might be able to effect a saving in the time of paper scarcity by requesting publishers to omit the paper jackets. Few, if any one, care for them, and they are usually discarded from library books. Many of them detract from the book by the garish, unattractive pictures which they carry.

Subscription - - - - -	\$2 a year	Single number - - - - -	25 cents
Five copies to one library - - -	\$8 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - -	\$2.25 a year

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

State Meetings

AS a war measure economy, many librarians did not attend the meetings at Saratoga. This practice of economy ought to make it more easy, despite high prices, for all of these to attend the state meetings in this time of stress. There is greater need than ever for the touch of shoulder to shoulder in the civilian service, which librarians are rendering to their country.

Trustees are especially urged to attend these meetings and every library should be represented by one or more members of its staff.

Those who feel that they have something to contribute and those who feel they have nothing to contribute, are alike requisite to generate the feeling

of solidarity of interest, which is necessary for effective library service.

The War Library Service for soldiers and sailors needed and received the full attention of the A. L. A. meeting at Saratoga.

War service needed and demanded in civilian life will be the key note of library meetings during the next several months.

Librarians must hear and heed the call or they will be found wanting in the places whereunto they have been called to serve.

Information, inspiration and recreation are promised at all the state meetings. Every librarian is urged to take advantage of them.

Our Share in the Drive

ANOTE from President W. W. Bishop urges the librarians not to forget the importance of the work of individual libraries and librarians in the coming campaign for funds for limited War Service.

"Just because the librarians are associated with such great organizations as the Y. M. C. A. for instance, is no reason for cessation or slacking of effort. On the contrary, we should show

these good friends that are joined with us, that we mean business and can raise money as well as they can. This point is particularly important in the smaller libraries."

In view of the splendid work that has been accomplished by the aggregating of many small efforts in providing reading matter for soldiers and sailors at home and abroad, it will be doubly incumbent on everyone to do

more in every way than was done last year. The demand is stronger and greater, the number to be served is increasing day by day and it will be a pity if, from lack of interest, libraries will have to be written as incompetent to accomplish great things either through lack of interest, ability or action.

We are constantly asking for greater recognition of libraries and library service. Here is a splendid opportu-

nity to prove that they are worthy of it. It will be extremely mortifying if the amount which the libraries raise does not bear a good large ratio to the amount they are expecting to receive."

Every library in the country, every librarian, every library trustee, must outdistance by a long way, anything they have done heretofore in the matter of raising funds for camp library service.

The need requires "every man to do his duty," November 11-18, 1918.

Good Work

No better presentation of the conditions and duties growing out of the war has been made than that given in the July number of *Food News Notes for Public Libraries*. The title, Democracy will win the war, why—how—when, does not give a full notion of the strength of the article. It brings home to the individual a sense of personal responsibility that is masterful. Librarians on "home guard service" can do a very effective bit of helpfulness by persuading every public speaker in the communities which they serve—clergymen, professors, club leaders, labor speakers, all—to read this to as large assemblages as they can bring together. It is simple in language for the unlearned

but it is pungent enough in presentation to percolate through the densest indifference of the self-sufficient. One who was moved to a renewed and extended abstinence pledge by its message urges the dissemination of its power by every librarian who counts for anything in his community. The teaching is more religious than 50 per cent of the pulpit efforts to which church-goers are subjected every week. Local newspapers seldom present the subject to the duty of democracy in so effective and illuminating a manner. Get these two agents of publicity to help bring home to their hearers and readers the power that lies in the why and how and when of food conservation.

Duplication

There is not even a hint of decrease in purpose among librarians to help win the war. Splendid work has been done by national and state associations, commissions, local boards, library clubs and individuals. A large part of this has been modest, unrecorded, but none the less hearty and loyal service. The whole gamut of enthusiasm from first to last has been sounded, and if there were a

final summing up of effort undoubtedly the librarians' contributions would stand unashamed either of quality or extent among the thousands who would properly be similarly recorded. To speak thus of it is not conceit, it is simply a statement of plain facts which cannot be disputed.

And while this is so, it in no wise detracts from the beauty and effect of it

to inquire if sometimes enthusiasm of a great degree burns so brightly that the relation of one's efforts to those of his neighbors or those engaged in similar lines, or even those who are charged with a wider scope of activity, might not be questioned as to necessity in the great scheme of things.

It is possible for zeal to outrun knowledge and necessity, and when this is so, is it not the part of wisdom that a note of caution should be sounded somewhere to the end that every movement that is made, every plan that is formulated may have a distinct and special reality in its value to the whole scheme?

These questions may find illustration at hand in almost every line of endeavor. It could be well illustrated in many of the activities outside of library lines, but librarians as such are concerned only with what takes place within their own circles, and so one is moved to caution workers to investigate thoroughly before undertaking a line of activity as to whether the proposed work is not being

done already by another organization or individual, and if so, to pursue a line of actual co-operation without duplication to the end that more power, more service, more material may be conserved and applied elsewhere where more needed.

Ample illustration is found in the printed material relating to war activities. Every mail brings in printed material on the same subjects, issued by small libraries, large libraries, local organizations, state organizations, national organizations, universities, colleges, churches, clubs, committees. This duplication defeats conservation of paper, printers, transportation, carriers, not to mention the service, space, time, and effort in its preparation.

Library commissions all over the country have about the same thing. Being independent agents, they are most generous, presenting lists of books, articles on war economy, accounts of camp libraries and similar things, which are already adequately presented by national organizations.

Trade Unions for Libraries

The attempt to unionize the workers in library service is evidently made without realizing the important fact that those serving in a library are employed by trustees conducting the business of the library without any prospect of making money, and who have not themselves the power to say how much money shall be expended for the maintenance of the library. They receive their authority from city councils or by vote of the people. There is little doubt in anybody's mind that the question of library salaries has not received the careful, fair, unbiased opinion that it should have. Conditions in our large libraries will fully il-

lustrate this fact. But it hardly seems that the principles of trade unionism can be applied to a service that is so largely a question of personality, individual attitude and exchange of intellectual property as is the case in library work. Civil service maintained by a political body is no more applicable to securing proper library service than are the principles of trade unionism. Neither of them apply, and no library under political civil service is conducted to as great advantage to public service as it would be if it were free from that strangle hold. There is hardly a case of political civil service rendering the best service that could be

done in administration. The creation of a public sentiment in favor of public library service by whatever means possible is demanded by the conditions of remuneration of library workers, but it is not reasonable to think that the unionizing of the library staff will bring about better conditions. The weapon of unionism is antipodal to the spirit that is the foundation of efficient library service.

Illinois Librarians, Attention!

The meeting of the Illinois Library Association will be held at Peoria, October 9-11. The program is well worth what it will cost to attend and the librarians are urged especially to be present.

The war problems of today form the background of all the public service. It is the province of the library to present these problems and their interpretation in print to the fullest extent possible, and no librarian of either a large or small library is free from enlistment and though it is in a civilian capacity, whoever fails for want of effort, is a dead weight on the wheel of progress.

William Howard Brett

The news of the tragic death of William H. Brett, librarian of the Cleveland public library, was so shocking in all its details that, almost, one's mind is paralyzed beyond the power of commenting on the tragic affair. The death of a fellow worker and friend under any circumstances is a distressful occasion, but when it comes suddenly, unwaranted, to check the full tide of useful activity, then does instinct cry out with all force, "No, it cannot be."

As yet it is impossible to think of Mr Brett as being out of the circle of library effort. At the head of a great successful library system, peer of any other, interested even at the moment of death in increasing the usefulness of that system, full of interest and endea-

vor for the Library War Service, keenly alive, valuable in counsel and contribution to the war activities themselves, effective in all the lines of human endeavor which touched his many-sidedness, he was long a great force in library circles. It is most bewildering to contemplate a vacancy where just now there was the greatest activity of a dominant presence.

The Cleveland public library is the monument most fitting to its late well-beloved director. His hand was on the helm during the entire length of the voyage up-to-date and he himself was possessed of the idea that his service there was the greatest achievement in his life's work. It is hard to think of the situation in Cleveland with him away. There are few librarians in the service today who preceded Mr Brett in library service in the United States. There is none who exceeded him in volume of achievement. Past the prescribed three score and ten, he was still vigorous in body and alert in mind, active in performing the duties of the hour. In the Library War Service, which is the ruling activity of the times, he was a much valued member of the War Service Committee of the staff of administrators, carrying out the plans which were evolved, always enthusiastic in his belief of the good that could be accomplished by the distribution of books to the soldiers and sailors. Only recently attention was called to the military distinction which was his (*PUBLIC LIBRARIES* 23:231) and the enthusiasm with which he plunged into War Library Service and the excellence of his achievements there, were only equalled by his contribution to the library service of Cleveland.

Mr Brett was the recipient in his day of all the honors which the associations of librarians could bestow upon him, and this not only because of the efficient service which he was able to render, but because of the personal regard and high esteem bestowed upon him by his fellow workers. Numerous civic bodies of Cleveland and library authorities in various parts of Ohio, or-

ganizations of various kinds with which he was affiliated, have expressed their feeling of great loss and deep sorrow at his untimely and tragic death. It has already been decided to name a public school for him in Cleveland.

The following appreciation of Mr Brett and his work was expressed by Hon. Newton D. Baker, when he heard of the accident:

I knew Mr Brett intimately, and was closely associated with his work for Cleveland and for the Public Library idea throughout the country. He ought to be ranked as one of America's great educators as well as one of Cleveland's most useful citizens. His death will not stop the great work with which he was associated, either at home or abroad.

As Secretary of War, I am glad to be able to express my appreciation of the splendid contribution which Mr Brett made to the soldiers in France and at home. His work is a part of theirs, and altogether it represents the best that America has yet done for the world.

Resolutions of the staff of the Cleveland public library

We, the staff of the Cleveland public library, in a special memorial service assembled, testify to the irreparable loss we sustain in the death of our beloved leader, William Howard Brett.

To think of him is to think of joyous service directed by a generous, loving nature and a richly-stored and experiencing mind. Believing that one of the chief sources for the enrichment of life lay in the precious records of human experience, as set forth in books, he designed that the whole people of this great city, irrespective of age, class or creed, might each be able to draw from these records just that which would meet his highest need. With such love for humanity he labored with unflinching joy and optimism for the fulfillment of his vision. With such a vision, he never ceased to be creative. Entirely without ambition, he found his true reward, the well-nigh complete attainment of his clear-purposed goal. The future alone can reveal his full accomplishment; how wisely he waited at times to execute; how far he looked into the coming years.

To the members of his staff he was

more than a friend. He rejoiced with us in personal good fortune, he sustained and helped us in adversity. With supreme tact and gentleness he guided us in our work. Always the master of the situation, he commanded only after untiring efforts to convince by reason and counsel. He inspired by sharing with us his most far-reaching plans, and by placing unbounded faith and trust in us. He was ever approachable, ever ready to give a generous hearing and to advise. He helped us to discover ourselves.

To his family we wish to send the message that we sorrow with them, and that we feel a deep sense of gratitude to them for having graciously recognized in all the many years of his public service how fully he belonged to his great work, and for having given him so freely to it. To have done this was to have increased his gifts to the people of Cleveland and to his beloved profession.

The precious heritage that he has left to us, the memory of his work and of the gallant spirit with which it was carried on, can be no more fittingly commemorated than by our resolving as a staff, to give to our work and to pass on to our future associates something of that spirit, and to continue to the people of Cleveland that joyous service which Mr Brett so freely rendered.

Be it resolved, That a copy of this minute be submitted to the family of Mr Brett as an expression of our deep and affectionate sympathy.

Be it further resolved, That a copy be sent to the members of the staff of the Newport News Dispatch Office, who were so closely associated with his last great task.

And be it further resolved, That a copy be offered to the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library, with the request that it be accepted and recorded in the minutes of the Board.

Resolutions of the Cleveland public library board

In the passing of William Howard Brett, the city of Cleveland has been deprived of an honored citizen who has rendered it in-

valuable service as librarian of its Public library during a continuous period of thirty-four years. During this period he built up and wisely administered one of the great library systems of the country, pre-eminent for the spirit of its service, and thus added to the city's renown. The city itself is to-day greater and fairer, many of its citizens happier, broader-minded, more intelligent and more useful, because he has lived.

His great work was the humanizing and socializing of the Public library. His vision saw it as every man's library, every woman's library, even every little child's library, holding in its rich stores of printed wealth, the wisdom of the world with its special messages for each; his was the task, so far as he could, to open its treasure to them one and all. This he accomplished through the patient, often prosaic, but always practical application of his own best theories and those of his fellows in his profession, until the library has permeated the city with a quiet influence for the enlargement of life. He was a great educational leader in his clear, broad conception of the library as the institution which informally supplements and continues through life the educational work begun by the public schools.

He considered the cause to which he had given himself worthy of his utmost efforts. and his dedication to it was complete. His energy and persistence were of a quality seldom seen; a hard worker, giving long days and most of his evenings to his labors, rarely taking a holiday, he yet brought to his daily tasks a zest and an enthusiasm which were a constant inspiration to those with whom he came in contact; he was modest, unassuming, sunny-tempered, straightforward and ingenuous as an unspoiled child, yet wise with the wisdom of great men, tender in his sympathies and instantaneous in his response to any human need, genuine and generous, self-forgetting, undauntedly optimistic, courageous and tenacious for the right as he saw it, just but lenient in his judgments and believing in the best in men, constructive in his thinking and planning. The friends who mourn him are legion.

The record of his accomplished work must be found in the history of the Cleveland public library system with its many outstanding progressive features; in the Western Reserve University library school of which he was one of the founders and its active dean, and whose alumni throughout the country have loved him as their professional head and wise advisor; in the Ohio library association which owes its inception and much of its development to him, its first president; in the American library association which he had served as one of its oldest and best beloved members, as one of its most honored presidents, and one of its most wise and helpful counsellors; in many

other gratuitous services for the advancement of libraries and the welfare of librarians; in the unwritten and untold influence of such a character as his upon thousands of lives with which he came in contact; and finally in the unstinted giving of his utmost efforts in professional and personal service to his country in this great war for humanity.

His great unfinished tasks are a sacred heritage. The tasks which he saw set in clear lines of duty before him, were the planning and completion of the new Main Library building, with the many original ideas which he had contributed to it; the development of the branch system until every section of the city shall be provided with adequate library equipment and service; the provision, by endowment or otherwise, of sufficient book funds for the building up of the various library collections; and the provision for adequate compensation for the splendid staff of helpers which he gathered about him, bound together by devotion to him and to his ideals. These for Cleveland and the rounding out of the work which had grown to such magnitude under his guidance.

He worked definitely and zealously to extend the library service to the county, and for legislation to insure library progress for the state. Last of all, since America entered the war, came another great task, new in the history of the world, the furnishing of books by the millions for purposes of war.

In the death of Mr Brett, the members of the Board, both personally and officially, have sustained an irretrievable loss.

Be it resolved, that this minute be spread on the records of the Board and that copies, in proper form, be sent to the family of Mr Brett, as an expression of the great sympathy which this Board feels for those whose loss is greatest of all; and that copies be sent to the mayor and the city council of Cleveland, to the Board of Education, to Western Reserve university, to the American library association and to the Ohio library association.

A deep sense of regret is felt by many of the librarians of Indiana at the decision of Mr Frederick G. Melcher to remove to New York City. He has undertaken service with the R. R. Bowker Company as managing editor of the *Publishers' Weekly* and the *Library Journal*. Mr. Melcher will doubtless carry into his new field the same unflagging energy and alert attention to business which he contributed to the W. K. Stewart Company, undoubtedly to the advantage and betterment of both publications.

A Fine Chance to Help

Through the kindness of Dr Putnam the following extracts are given from a letter received from Mr H. Nelson Gay of Rome, Italy. It treats of a project which should interest American librarians. Mr Gay is connected with the Library for American studies in Italy, and is in a position to coöperate with librarians who are like-minded in bringing about closer and better relations between the people of Italy and those of the United States. The substance of Mr Gay's letter is as follows:

Efforts are earnestly undertaken to dispel the existing ignorance of the two nations on both sides of the Atlantic. Italy is as ignorant of the United States as America is of modern Italy, and no library in Italy contains a decent collection of American books. It is the purpose of those interested to rectify the situation. A call is made for 5,000 volumes and 50,000 lire, by January 1, 1919, and double that number of volumes and double that amount of money by January 1, 1920, which is intended to eventually develop a library on the United States which for educational purposes will rank among the best—a library that will make it possible for university students in Italy to take their Ph.D. degrees in American history, literature, economics, etc.; for Italian deputies to speak in Parliament with authority upon American questions; for Italian journalists to clearly distinguish between the United States and Guatemala. The library will be deposited for the present with the Italo-American Union which has taken quarters facing the new entrance to Parliament. We need wide and vigorous support from America and we need it at once.

Official and other publications contributed to the purpose in mind, and books should be sent when possible by ordinary post, not by parcel post, when it can be avoided. Here is a chance for state libraries, universities, colleges, commercial bodies, etc., to contribute very effectively to the laudable purpose set forth in Mr Gay's letter to Dr Putnam. Mr Gay may be addressed at Pallazzo Orsini, Rome, Italy.

More may be learned from a librarian as to the trend of thought in his community than from the secretary of a commercial body.—*Meredith Nicholson.*)

Library War Service

An important decision

A letter from M. L. McBride, acting chairman of the Commission on Training Camp Activities, to Dr Putnam states:

"As a result of a conference with General Crowder, that Draft Boards will be instructed to honor exemption requests for men employed in the work of the organizations affiliated with this Commission in welfare work with the soldiers. This action has the approval of the President. It will be necessary for the heads of the organizations to write to the respective Boards where these men are registered. Relative to men for foreign service, in addition to the above recommendations the War Department itself will recommend the names of all men for passports who have the approval of their respective organizations for foreign service and where they have passed the necessary individual examination."

Dr Putnam states that "As a recognition of the Service—unquestionably a war service and vital to our troops,—which these men are rendering, the decision is very welcome."

A soldier's tribute to the library

A letter to the mayor of San Diego, Cal., from Lieut. E. F. Smith, who has gone abroad with the army, resigning his position as library trustee, contains the following concerning the work of the public library of that city:

In closing, I desire to say that it is my earnest hope that your honor and the honorable council will not forget that in such a time as this the public library should be one of the last departments to feel the axe of retrenchment, for it can furnish to the citizens of San Diego, as can no other institution, the mass of educational material and the leavening and steady influence that is so badly needed by all in this great crisis.

And do not forget that one of the greatest users of the public library system at this time is the very body of men who are giving their lives to perpetuate the great democracy of which we are members. Not only do they enjoy the lighter side of the book material, but many are drawing constantly on the all too small supply of tech-

nical books that are housed within its buildings.

And, as the cost of books increases, the poorer classes, which constitute by far the larger percentage of the library's patrons, will more and more be forced to turn to the library for their reading matter, and there should be no stinting of the supply for this most urgent need.

Extension of service

General Pershing has just issued permission to the American library association to extend circulating library privileges direct to any individual member of the American Expeditionary Forces without cost to the soldier. The A. L. A. has established a large American circulating and distributing center in Paris. Under the new arrangement a soldier can write to Paris for any particular book and it will be mailed to him immediately.

A little tip for Auntie Beans

Who sends the soldiers magazines

Aunt Genevieve Matilda Beans subscribed for seven magazines. When one she'd read, it was her rule to let it lie three months to cool, and then to carefully entomb it in a vacant attic room until her literary hoard she measured by the ton and cord.

One day, she read that soldiers like to read ensuing drill or hike, and recent magazines were just the polisher for mental rust. So excavating from her store a hundredweight or maybe more, she launched it, tied in chunky bales, upon the patient U. S. mails.

The postman swore, the mail-clerks moaned, the camp librarian groused and groaned, and Private Smith, well-known select, soliloquized to this effect:

"The bird who shipped this pile had sure some taste for moldy literature! Say, who the blank-blank doped it and that 'soldier' spells an antique scout whose sense of date grew pale and wan the day he put the khaki on!

"My literary taste is punk, but I've an eagle eye for junk, and if I couldn't only part the stale stuff from my clinging heart, the passing junkman I would flag, and buy a thrift stamp with the swag."

Camp Sherman News.

A. L. A. Camp Libraries at Sea

A U. S. soldier who was on the S. S. President Lincoln when it was torpedoed, May 21, has written a most interesting account of the event, his experiences, sensations and observations. Needless to say they all reflect credit on him and his mates while they add to the long list of black marks due the German raiders.

An interesting item in the letter was as follows:

... "They were saved on a raft. The raft looked like an elongated doughnut. The hole in the center had a rope net, where the men stood up to their waists in water and when they began to feel paralyzed with the cold, they swam awhile to get up their circulation. When one of the men dived off the steamer's deck toward the raft, he discovered a small shiny silver thing floating. He grabbed it and it proved to be a silver vanity case some one was taking to his lady love! No matter how serious the scene, something funny always happens. You will be interested to know that even in this extremity, the library was in evidence. Among the things floating around some time after we started, was a box of books that was going over with us. We hooked on to it and we all took a chance at something to read. I got Twenty Leagues Under the Sea. Rather suggestive, eh?

Bookplates

Arrangements have been made with several publishers for distribution through their new books, of bookmarks recently published by the Library War Service. Librarians and booksellers may obtain copies on request. Each bookmark provides a bookplate (a cut of the first Falls poster) on which may be written the donor's name and address, making the book a personal gift. These bookmarks should be useful in vacation books that are given for camp use, as well as "recruiting books" from the public.

Miss Mary F. Isom, librarian of Portland, Oregon, goes to France to help in the overseas library work.

Miss Cornelia Marvin, State librarian of Oregon, will spend several months as a library worker in the army posts on the Mexican border.

C. W. Sumner, librarian of the Public library of Sioux City, Iowa, was granted three months' leave of absence to act as librarian at Camp Cody, N. M. Mr Sumner will return to Sioux City, November 1.

Someone in Cleveland produced the happy suggestion in relation to the funeral of the late lamented Mr Brett, that instead of sending a great profusion of floral offerings, the cost of such an offering be contributed to a Memorial soldiers' book fund, something that Mr Brett had been begging for day and night for more than a year. The idea pleased the family, and so thousands of soldiers will be made glad through the offerings of friends of their great friend.

W. H. Powers, librarian of the State college library, Brookings, S. D., spent some time in Camp Cody library during the early part of the year. A letter in the *South Dakota Library Bulletin*, Vol. 4, No. 2, tells of his experiences. Speaking of the demand for books, he writes as follows:

Only second in importance, if indeed figures would not show them equal to the military books in number, were the technical works in engineering, chiefly electrical and auto engineering. It was rather painfully surprising that the demand for history and biography was relatively small. For the rest, the requests were as various as the individuals. Moreover, we attempted to supply every legitimate demand and seldom failed utterly. There were, for example, books in most of the modern languages of Europe. In point of circulation, Bohemian books far exceeded all others. We were unable to keep a register of borrowers and do not know how many different Bohemian readers we had, not very many. We had occasional requests to sell books. One boy wanted "Stones of Paris," as he said we had only one odd volume. When we found the other volume he was content to continue a borrower. The classics, Greek, Roman and others were in constant, though not frequent, demand. Dante was out all the time. One man must have a method of "petrifying" specimens instead of skinning his birds. Another must have help in identifying a venomous but beautiful and tiny snake; this man was a collector who had carried on his business in South America and Africa. We had a small but excellent law library which was much used by dozens of law students. One man asked for a book on tree repairing; the desert rather called for tree planting. Stranger still was to get

from headquarters at Washington about a dozen volumes on timbering. One must have seen New Mexico's desert to appreciate that choice of technical literature.

The gift books came from many states; none to us from South Dakota, many from Minnesota, a good many from Iowa; the largest single consignment, 10,000 volumes, came from Los Angeles—our nearest large city. The books came to us in all states of preservation and in all conditions of shipment. People can't seem to realize that books are heavy and that a hundred of them are about all that men can handle in one box and about all that even a stout box will transport in good condition. The freight agent swore; we picked up the odd volumes from every corner of the car, with librarian's instinct to preserve; the truck driver looked on amused. It seemed equally impossible for the givers to take seriously the injunction, "Send what you yourself care for, readable books," and still more impossible for the packers not to include, even against their better judgment, a dilapidated or antiquated volume with the plea, "Well, maybe someone will be glad to get it." But those things were merely junk in our brand new building, and the process wasted freight costs and much precious time. Taken in all, the average of excellence of books was high. One word about the monumental volumes in sets of Bulwer and other Collier publications. They may be good books but you can't get anyone to read them for pastime.

Under the direction of Miss Adah F. Whitcomb of the children's department of the Chicago public library, an effort is being made to collect a library of picture books to send to the French children through the kindergarten units in France, of which Miss Fanniebelle Curtis is director. This is a branch of the Red Cross movement, and the books will be forwarded to Miss Curtis and the fifteen kindergartners, who will take them directly to the children. It is called "an opportunity to make a little French child smile, who perhaps has not done so since the German shells drove him from his home." Either money or new books, *only* new books, are solicited without apology.

The Library War Service and what it has accomplished has been set out at length in a number of library publications in recent weeks. The sum total received has been \$1,381,937, and it is expected this time to raise \$3,500,000,

of which over half will be spent immediately for books and material. Nearly \$200,000 is to be expended for buildings and building equipment overseas, and another \$200,000 for the same in America. Every library wishing it, may receive a copy of the bulletin *War Libraries* regularly until the campaign is over.

Details of publicity plans and the line of work laid out for every library organization will be told from time to time. All questions concerning details of any kind relating to the work will be answered in *War Libraries*. A postal card to "Editor, *War Libraries*," 124 E. 28th Street, New York, will bring you any number of copies that you may require to supply everyone needing them.

Frank Parker Stockbridge, director of information in the coming campaign, sent out a piece of "ginger," which ought to go far towards pushing the work to a successful conclusion.

He begins by saying:

We are going to ask the American people, in the week beginning November 11, 1918, for \$3,500,000 with which to carry on the Library War Service for another year.

We are going to need the active, enthusiastic, untiring help of every librarian and member of a Library board in the United States, to get this money.

We have got to get it!

"That admits of no discussion. We have got to get every cent of \$3,500,000—and we ought to get twice as much. With the expansion of the United States Army to 4,000,000 effectives we surely are going to need it.

If the Library War Service of the American library association is even to approach the ideal aim of supplying every man of the fighting forces with exactly the reading matter he wants and needs, wherever he is and when he wants it, whether he be in a training camp on this side, on board a fighting ship or a transport, or on duty overseas, then every member of the Association, every friend, everyone who can by any means be pressed into service must help to the utmost in the effort to raise the necessary fund for the continuance of the work."

An account of the work already accomplished and the money expended in the past year—a little more than \$1,000,000, is as follows:

41 large camp library buildings have been erected in the United States.

43 large camp libraries have been established.

139 hospitals and Red Cross houses have been supplied with books.

243 librarians have been placed in service.

284 small military camps and posts have been equipped with book collections.

130 Naval stations and 18 Marine stations have been supplied with libraries, as well as 232 vessels.

1,460 library branches and stations have been opened in Y. M. C. A. and K. of C. huts, barracks and mess halls.

828,000 books have been shipped overseas.

540,833 books have been purchased, largely technical.

2,662,550 gift books have been placed in service.

A notice by the Y. M. C. A. National war council of the death of Miss Winona Martin in the attack on the hospital in Paris closes as follows: Could the Hun have desired a better revenge upon America than the death of this quiet young woman who had come to offer cheer and what aid a woman's hand and voice could give to our soldiers?

There is a significance in this girl's death. Does it not illustrate the advancing tide of woman's influence? For here was one, a member of a men's organization, willing to undergo a man's hardship and privations, prepared to march and labor with men, and at length dying a soldier's death. And especially does it seem to show the growing seriousness of the American women toward this vast conflict—that this quiet student, a librarian by profession, should leave her books to cross the ocean and help the people of another nation throw off the burden of brute tyranny. Is it not another and a striking evidence of the growth of universal brotherhood in these latter days?

I have read her record card at the Y. M. C. A. headquarters in Paris. On it, in her own handwriting, are the words, "For the duration of the war and longer if required." Longer than the duration of the war will linger the memory of this girl—the first American woman in Paris to lay down her life for this struggle against wrong, and the first martyr among those wearers of the red triangle who may be found toiling in every camp and trench of France.

A. L. A. Meeting at Saratoga, N. Y.

The fortieth annual meeting of the American library association was held at Saratoga Springs, New York, July 1-6, 1918. The distress of the times made it impossible for many of the members to attend, and in point of numbers the meeting was the smallest that has been held for some years.

The place of meeting for the general sessions was the Convention auditorium, which, having been built and arranged for two or three thousand people, lent itself with poor grace to a conference sometimes of less than one hundred.

Dr Charles B. Alexander of the University of the State of New York gave a most cordial and acceptable address in welcoming the association to the state. Dr Alexander made many friends among the librarians from "West of Buffalo" by his broad-minded cordiality and his genuine hospitality.

In his president's address, under the title "Civilization" Mr Montgomery showed that "his heart was true to Paul," in that his effort for the most part was an exaltation of things Pennsylvanian, but he wound up his address by calling on America to prove equal to the demand that will come from the youth of nations for a place to accomplish post-graduate work under competent supervision and proper environment.

(Mr Montgomery's address has already appeared in the *Library Journal* and will be set out in full in the A. L. A. *Proceedings*.)

Miss Ahern had been asked by the executive secretary to devise a plan by which it would be possible for newcomers to recognize on sight the leaders of thought and activity in the association. She had the idea that this could be accomplished through an invitation from the President to the members of the association to come to the platform by years, beginning with 1894 when she herself first knew them, and be presented to the assembly by name so that those unacquainted with them might at least recognize them on sight, but alas! "The best laid schemes," etc. The disinclination of some, the shyness of others and the mis-

understanding of still another part of the assembly, frustrated the plan and misread the purpose, so that the first evening was spent in pleasant conversation by those who knew each other and by something that resembled loneliness by those who did not feel socially inclined or were strangers to the company.

The general session on Tuesday morning was devoted to the reports of the War Service committee, included an address by the chairman, Mr Wyer, a résumé of his services by the chairman of the Committee on finance, Dr Hill, and as always an illuminating presentation by Dr Putnam, when he told of what the staff engaged in Library War Service in Washington had accomplished, was doing and what it proposed to do for the future. The plentitude of printed material which had been distributed before the meeting left only the pleasant personal touch of these speakers to make the work seem highly delightful as its story was related. Those doing the actual work in the camps, Mr Dudgeon, Miss Carey, Mr Brett, Mr Lowe and especially Mr Strohm of Detroit, further emphasized the reality of the work to which the librarians had given so unreservedly time, attention and money throughout the year, as they listened to the recitals of the different ones who represented them in the final event of activity. Wednesday morning's program called for a recital of what different library factors had done and were doing to assist in the war. Various libraries had been selected as typical to relate what each kind of library was doing to help win the war. Miss Titcomb, Mr Wellman, Miss Robinson, Mr Wyer and Mr Hanson gave out interestingly of their experience. Perhaps the most effective presentation of this phase of the work was that given by Mr G. H. Locke, chief librarian of the Public library at Toronto, on what Canadian libraries are doing to help win the war. His story touched the hearts of his hearers, and its recital doubtless will have an unexpected value in widening the horizon of those who are entrusted to carry on library service for the libraries of the United States, in making them realize

that the thing that they are doing so far as their environment is concerned is an impersonal thing and that it is all a part of a great whole, and that in undertaking to perform it they have a wide responsibility to carry on not only what seems to them should be done but to do that which they are expected to perform by those who support them. This was Mr Locke's first appearance in a definite presentation on a general program, and the cordiality of his reception, particularly at the close of his address, showed the appreciation which he has gained in his ten years' membership in the A. L. A.

The interest and activity of the good libraries throughout the country in the work of the United States Food Administration are not second to that of any other work so the brief statement of Miss Edith Guerier of the library section of the Food Administration, was a welcome note to the many who were devoted to the subject.

The reports from the dispatch offices ranged from gay to grave and showed the spirit and power of the workers themselves.

The program provided for the Fourth of July lacked a promised feature to which many had looked forward with pleasures, namely, the "Conference Sing," though the authors' readings which were presented by Mr Carl Sandberg of Chicago were unpleasantly punctuated at times by the strains of a brass band on the outside. The Convention auditorium here again showed its unfavorable properties for a small meeting in the display of imperfect acoustic properties, but nevertheless those who were fortunate enough to catch the spirit of Mr Sandberg's story of the Prairie, which "will be here when cities are gone," greatly enjoyed the reading. The author's power to concentrate a whole story or picture or character and to relate important and vital things about life and society within the compass of a few lines was most refreshing.

The *pièce de résistance*, perhaps, of the whole conference, was the recital of Dr M. Llewellyn Raney, overseas representative of the Library War Service, as he told his personal experiences in England

and France in introducing and establishing the work of the A. L. A. for the forces overseas. No description can do it justice.

Dr Orr, director of the educational work of the Y. M. C. A., in closing his recital of the work that had been done in distributing books through the "Y" buildings, stressed the importance of bringing home to the minds of the general public, the great necessity of making a reality as far as possible out of the ideals which are growing up in the minds of the soldiers and sailors brought in relation to the conditions, aspirations and fulfillment of the things at home.

On Friday morning, Dr A. E. Bostwick, in discussing the "Future of library work," seemed to see that much remained to be done in the way of elevation of standards, in coöperation of effort, in catholicity of purpose, in unselfishness of aim and personal equipment before a professional title is warranted. Many who had heard Miss Massee at the A. L. A. meeting of 1915 and in subsequent state associations looked forward with great pleasure to the "Spirit of war poetry." They were not disappointed in Miss Massee's presentation, but again their delight was diminished by the inappropriateness of the large hall for her recital.

Mr Bowerman, who was also on the program with Miss Massee at her former appearance, was thought by some to be too generous in his inclusion of books in "Prose of the war," for in his recital, necessary perhaps to illustrate his point, of a number of pages from various works, including the story of Mr Britling and others, he seemed to show a belief that his hearers were adherents of the axiom that "the librarian who reads is lost." He lost many hearers before he finished. His reading of the address of President Wilson at Mt. Vernon also suffered from the bad acoustic properties of the house.

Dr Putnam was especially effective at the close of the program in summing up the work of the Library War Service, not only of the various committees, but of the spirit displayed in the coöperation and confidence which had been accorded

to headquarters and its staff. He invited belief, counsel and question from those genuinely interested, and appealed for a continuation of the confidence that had been so generously accorded up to that time.

Mr E. R. Perry, librarian of Los Angeles, as chairman of the committee, presented a memorial to the late lamented J. L. Gillis, and Mrs H. L. Elmendorf most fittingly presented a memorial of another committee appointed to present a tribute to the memory of the late Henry E. Legler.

H. W. Craver offered a resolution, which was adopted, giving the Executive Board authority to omit the meeting in 1919 if, in their judgment, it seemed desirable.

War library service was the keynote of most of the discussions, not only in the general sessions but also in the departmental sections. The camp librarians "showed up" most strikingly in their semi-military uniforms and in every little group they were always the core of interest both to beholders and themselves. The exhibits were full of interest and information. The camp library activities very properly led in extent and variety. The Food Administration exhibit was most inspiring and illuminating and was surrounded constantly by the note-book contingent. The bookmen, binders and library supply salesmen were courteous, helpful and a pleasant addition to the occasion.

One of the interesting things that took place at the Conference was the activity of members of the Library Employees' Union of New York City. Bulletins setting forth the greater advantages of belonging to the union over A. L. A. membership were distributed at the close of the meeting. The bulletin advocates civil service for public libraries, certification by the A. L. A. being considered highly impractical, inasmuch as the Association has no power to enforce its findings. It would ensure no tenure of office, no standardization of positions and salaries, and no promotions from the ranks. In the case of a library supported by public

funds, no city or state board would for a moment consider its authorities seriously. Civil service, through which the employes would have a voice in the conditions under which they worked, it was said, offers both protection to the employe and democratization of library service.

Report of secretary

Secretary Utley had little to report on what he terms the most uneventful year of the A. L. A. headquarters. The secretary acted during the year as executive secretary of the War Service commission, and spent his time almost continuously at headquarters in Washington. The report states that a card record of the number of A. L. A. and other library workers at service with the colors was compiled for permanent preservation. A service flag in honor of the men serving with the colors was made and displayed at the Saratoga meeting. The flag contained 297 stars, with one gold star. The report states that only men enlisted in the service were included on the flag, but records that many fine, capable women are rendering service equally valuable to the country outside of bearing arms. Record is made of the death of Miss Winona C. Martin, librarian of Rockville Center, N. Y., who enrolled as a Y. M. C. A. canteen worker, and who fell a victim of a German bomb on a hospital during an air raid in Paris.

Number of added members in the year was 177. The proposed *Library Annual* was indefinitely postponed by the A. L. A. on account of war activities. Seventeen members of the association died during the year, among whom were one charter member of the association, three life members and an ex-president of the association.

Report of the A. L. A. Publishing Board

Among the most important publications of the year was the new edition of Miss Kroeger's Guide to reference books. A number of lists and other minor publications were issued. Total subscriptions to the *A. L. A. Booklist*, 5515; of this 167 are on the free list of which 37 are sent to camp libraries.

Receipts from publications, \$14,772; from Carnegie fund, \$4500; cost of publication, \$8075; total receipts, \$20,666; total expenditures, \$18,864.

Report of treasurer

Arthur E. Bostwick and Matthew S. Dudgeon have been reappointed by President Bishop to the A. L. A. Publishing Board for terms of three years each. Josephine A. Rathbone was appointed a member of the Publishing Board to fill the unexpired term of the late Henry E. Legler.

The composition of the Board is now as follows: Arthur E. Bostwick, acting chairman, Mrs H. L. Elmen-dorf, M. S. Dudgeon, Carl H. Milam and Josephine A. Rathbone.

Receipts January 1 to May 31, \$14,741; expenditures \$8251; amount in Jas. L. Whitney fund, \$380; total balance \$6740.

Catalog section

The Catalog section was presided over on July 2 by Adelaide F. Evans of the Detroit public library and Leta E. Adams of Gaylord Brothers acted as secretary.

A paper on "War department indexes" by Lieut. Willis F. Sewell of the Adjutant General's office, was read by Mary E. Hyde of the New York public library. The work of compiling a card for every man in the American Expeditionary Forces and of notifying relatives when casualties occur, was given in detail. Other indexes described were: the file of enlistment papers and of the declarations of privates; the applications and subsequent correspondence in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance (life insurance section); an occupational card file in the office of the Provost Marshal; a personnel file in division headquarters of the army in this country and in France, and finally a file of Income Tax returns in the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue.

Dr C. W. Andrews of the John Crear library, Chicago, for the Decimal Classification advisory committee said that slight progress had been made during the year. The committee felt that

unless there was a decided change for the better during the coming year, they should either go on independently or else ask to be discharged.

In the symposium on "Cataloging economies," Jennie M. Flexner of the Louisville free library read a very entertaining paper written by May W. Wigginton, — a humorous narrative of the experiences of members of the Public library staff in organizing a library at Camp Zachary Taylor, five miles from Louisville and getting 11,500 v ready for circulation in 18 days.

The next paper, "Some Rochester economies," was read by Adeline B. Zachert of the Rochester public library. In describing the short-cuts which have worked well in Rochester, Miss McCartney emphasized the fact that their system as yet had no central library, that it consisted of five general branches, a business reference branch and 67 stations. All the work of the catalog and order departments including the supervision of book repairing is done by a staff of five. Time and labor savers are therefore eagerly sought and joyfully welcomed when found. Economies discussed in detail were enumerated as follows: The number of L. C. cards needed are indicated on carbon copies of book order lists; Cutter numbers are not used; a typewriter platen made especially for the Rochester public library enables three cards to be typed at a time, a temporary author card permits the removal from the official catalog of the main entry card which is used as a guide when duplicate cards are to be typed for branches.

"Care of gift pamphlets in the University of Illinois library," written by Adah Patton of that library, told the story of how 5,000 pamphlets of more or less temporary use are economically catalogued yearly so that the order department avoids purchase of duplicates and all pamphlets on any subject are available to readers. Brief author entries are typed by student clerks on manila cards as the pamphlets come in. Carbon copies are filed in the gift and

exchange department to prevent duplications and the pamphlet is stamped with the mark of library ownership. Three figure Dewey class numbers preceded by the capital letter P are written in pencil on the pamphlet itself and typed on the author cards. No book numbers are used except in the case of individual biography when the letter of the name of the biographee is added. When the cards are filed in the public catalog, care is taken to see that the pamphlet is not a duplicate and already in the library. If the pamphlet is a second copy that fact is noted on the card already filed and the pamphlet is returned to the classifier who marks it copy 2. After the cards are filed the pamphlets are shelved in boxes, labelled with the class number preceded by the capital letter P. They are placed before the completely cataloged books on the same subject. Each collection of pamphlets is represented in the shelf-list by a card bearing the class number and note "Box of pamphlets." The cost per piece of cataloging pamphlets in this way is about one-tenth that of fully cataloged books. When the time comes to arrange pamphlets having the same class number, Miss Patton thought that chronological order would best meet the needs of the users of the library. Exceptions to the above treatment are: foreign dissertations which are minutely classified and cataloged and college publications of an administrative character which are shelved together and not cataloged at all.

"Cost reduction in cataloging," the last paper on the program, was written by T. Franklin Currier of Harvard College library. Economy in cataloging, Mr Currier wrote, will be brought about not by teaching parrot-like specific devices but by applying the principles of efficient management which are: correct ideals of work, care in selecting and training assistants, correct supervision and flexibility of organization.

Considerable discussion of short-cuts in general and especially the elimina-

tion of Cutter numbers followed. Some of those taking part were G. W. Lee of the Stone and Webster library, J. C. M. Hansen of the University of Chicago library, Charles Martel of the Library of Congress, Dr E. C. Richardson of Princeton University library, Rena Reece of the Denver public library, Jennie M. Flexner of the Louisville free library and Leta E. Adams of Gaylord Bros.

Herbert C. Collar of the Grosvenor library, Buffalo, spoke very fully on the making of "Index cards for maps found in certain periodicals."

Officers of the section for the ensuing year: Chairman, Jean Hawkins, New York State library school; secretary, Adah Patton, University of Illinois library.

LETA E. ADAMS,
Acting secretary.

Children's librarians section

The meeting of the children's librarians on July 2, 1918, was presided over by Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh.

A report of the committee on the production of children's book of which Miss Burnite is chairman, was read by Miss Hazeltine and approved as read. The committee had studied the situation and obtained some definite information after getting reports from about 30 publishers who "replied in a spirit of interest and a desire for coöperation." "It is not surprising that none of them felt that there was anything that could be done to improve the physical qualities of the books just now."

Nearly all of the publishers in answer to the question, "In what ways may this committee be of service to your firm," asked that they be apprised of the plan of work and decisions of the committee. One firm would welcome an opportunity to put suggested ideas and manuscript of books before the committee or a specially suggested committee of children's librarians, and would contribute something to the expense of such coöperation.

The committee recommended that the next step be the securing from publishers some definite statement of books which they expect to reprint and especially those which they plan to re-set, to determine whether any changes seem wise in illustration, make-up or text.

The committee also recommended the advisability of finding out from the publishers those books which are out of stock and which they are not planning to republish and whether publishers would be interested in a statement from the large libraries as to the importance of continuing particular titles.

The committee considered that much of the success of any attempt to influence the production of better books for children depended on a cordial relationship between the committee and the publisher, especially on the confidence of the publisher in the practical judgment of the committee.

A list of examples of books of unsatisfactory typography and books which do not wear well has been prepared by this committee.

Miss Burnite in a paper on "Library work for children in war time" spoke of the resocialization of community life and forces which have affected children as a class and as they have now become an asset for the present as well as the future, to make them socially and economically productive is the responsibility laid upon those who deal with them.

Each institution has the aim of helping to the utmost and it is necessary to remember that the resources, ability and spirit of the future depend not only upon what is done now in helping but how it is done. To give children a full understanding of the importance of the things they are doing and a full knowledge of the ends they are serving and in the quickening of children to the community feeling of fidelity and devotion, the library plays an important part.

The regrouping of material in our books to bring stronger focus on motives and situations was a suggestion, the avoidance of abstract preachment

and giving out to children only that which has first quickened ourselves.

A general outline of procedure for forwarding war time activities in order to secure an educational program was suggested.

Informal reports from a number of cities given at some length showed variations in methods but unanimity of effort and aim and the accomplishments in the first hurried excitement even when definite plans were lacking were stupendous.

An outline prepared by the Library committee of the Junior Red Cross on possible means of coöperation between libraries and Junior Red Cross society was read by the secretary. The suggestions given were meant to be practical ones for small and large communities and were made up from those which have been actually tried in a number of libraries. This outline appeared in the July number of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, p. 333.

Officers: Chairman, Miss Caroline Burnite, Cleveland public library; vice-chairman, Miss Adeline Zachert, Rochester public library; secretary, Miss Ethel Wright, Toledo public library.

The chair appointed Miss Louise Hooper of Brookline and Mr Adam Strohm of Detroit on the advisory board, and on the committee for the production of children's books, Miss Nina Brotherton of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, and Theodore W. Koch of the Library of Congress.

Lending department round-table

Miss Drake's paper on the Elimination of the use of the readers' cards in the public library summed up the advantages and disadvantages as follows:

The advantages are:

- 1—Eliminates constant talk and argument as to where reader's cards are and constant explanation about bringing them each time a book is taken out, etc.
- 2—By asking addresses each time, these are kept up to date.
- 3—Card is always in the library in its proper place.
- 4—Saves time of assistant in filling out readers' cards in the beginning and the duplicates and the temporary cards.

5—Saves cost of readers' cards.

The disadvantages:

1—Readers have to wait while their number is being looked up.

2—Necessity of asking reader's name each time.

3—Reader will not have a receipt for his book, which he never had, anyway, under our old system.

4—Have to take patron's word as to number of books he has out.

Redlands, Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Oskaloosa and Sioux City are now using this system and report favorably. Rochester tried dispensing with borrower's cards at one of the sub branches but had to go back to using the card.

Wilmington has tried to shorten and simplify the process of charging, and finds the Newark system the best. The Sioux City way does not shorten the process nor lessen congestion at the charging desk.

Newark thinks it could be used in small libraries but it means increased waiting and work for the borrower. Mr Dana furthermore said that for 25 years he had been trying to find a simpler method than the Newark and found that any means used for saving the library meant extra work for the patron.

Consensus of opinion was that the Sioux City system would not be feasible in a large library system.

The Question box brought the following:

1—How have the libraries near the training camps for soldiers and sailors handled these men when they presented themselves as would-be patrons?

Omaha lost so many books a deposit was required; this was not successful as the men frequently were called away with so little notice they could not get the money refunded. Now books are sent to the camps and placed in charge of the Y. M. C. A.

Wilmington also makes deposits in the camp, the A. L. A. supplying the needed technical books. The question of fines has not arisen as the soldiers return their books promptly. Omaha and Newark remit fines, Elizabeth treats the soldier as a regular patron except that the officer's signature takes the place of any other reference.

2—What can be done when books are kept until long overdue by members of the board of trustees of a library, after the usual post card notices have been sent?

The methods used were: notify wife of board member; use special card saying book is needed; send personal letter; telephone that book is urgently needed.

3—What is the general opinion in regard to charging books by date of issue instead of date due?

This was voted on and a large majority found in favor of the date due.

The chief opposition to using date due seems to be the chance of charging with the wrong stamp and the inability to fix responsibility. Pittsburgh reports no trouble of this sort. Each date has a different colored pencil—current date (discharging pencil) is brown; 7 day, black; 14 day, yellow; 28 day, green. Each assistant has a symbol—a check, a dash, etc.—which she makes when writing borrower's number, thus fixing responsibility absolutely. Another library further differentiates by using different sized type for different dates.

4—Have any libraries instituted economies in the routine of the circulation department in the effort to release assistants for war work which might be of interest to this meeting?

Newark bought a nicer set of trays to save time; also recommends use of registration book in place of numerical file at Central library. "Mr" and "Miss" are now omitted from registration entries and borrower's card while a dash (—) is used for "Mrs."

Rochester multigraphs the bookslips of books of which there are many copies in use, which require frequent renewing.

Miss Waller I. Bullock of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh was chosen chairman for the next meeting and Miss Frances Dorrance of Trenton, secretary.

AGNES F. P. GREER,
Secretary.

School libraries section

The School section held two sessions, at which Chairman F. K. Walter presided. No special program was followed at the round-table; topics for discussion were suggested by questions asked at the meeting. Dr Sherman Williams explained the recently adopted regulation of the Board of Regents of New York state concerning standardization of school librarians.

The library problems of the Junior high-school were discussed by Adeline B. Zachert, Willis H. Kerr and John D. Wolcott. Miss Zachert advocated the creation of a division of the school section to be known as the Junior high

school division, the function of which should be:

1. The preparation of a standard list of general literature to serve as a guide to teachers in Junior high schools.
2. The encouraging of a friendly interest of librarians toward their local boards of education in urging the appointment of qualified librarians in Junior high schools.
3. The preparation of a simple outline of instruction in the use of books for Junior high school pupils.

At the regular section meetings the general topic was, "The school library in the teaching of patriotism." Various aspects of this subject were given by Rachel Baldwin of Allegheny high school branch, Pittsburgh; Helen S. Babcock of the Austin high school branch, Chicago, and Anne T. Eaton, Lincoln school of Teachers college, New York.

Miss Baldwin in discussing the topic brought out the fact that "the high school is a fertile field for the cultivation of patriotism because of the various agencies which readily link themselves with school activities such as Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Liberty Bond Campaigns, Food Conservation, etc., all of which serve to stimulate loyalty and enthusiasm and offer opportunities where pupils may work for definite ends. The school library comes in everywhere, there is no activity which it can not touch. Nothing is easier at this time than to arouse war patriotism by means of bulletins, pictures, current topics, debates, war books, soldiers' book campaigns, etc. The librarians' and teachers' greatest opportunity, however, is to fuse this enthusiasm for one great cause into an active, constructive patriotism that will give generous and loyal service to our country in peace as well as in war."

Miss Babcock in her paper supplemented the statements of Miss Baldwin by telling of the work in the Austin high school branch of Chicago. Here, teachers are informed of the material of general interest for the teaching of patriotism contained in the library by mimeographed bulletins; if more specialized, this information is conveyed by personal note or interview.

A marked copy tucked in the teacher's box often brings good results. In order to locate articles appearing in the magazines quickly, simple penciled cards referring to the articles are filed in an index and kept on one of the tables and thus anticipate the coming of the new *Readers' Guides*.

During the various campaigns, the library has displayed all posters and notices in its room and kept on hand literature bearing on the subject. It has been the policy of the school to use the public speaking classes to make the appeals. This was first tried with the A. L. A. book drive. The library was headquarters but the school organizations were utilized, thereby gaining wider publicity and interest. These "two-minute men" used the library as the source of their material for speeches, circulars, advertisements, pamphlets, editorial, addresses and the like. Thousands of books were brought in.

The various government bulletins were used as a basis for class work, also clippings, pictures and the *Readers' Guide*. A recipe file was started in the card catalog. Exhibits of food uses, such as a model meal for a child of five and the daily rations of the fighting nations were shown, together with all available material in printed form.

Miss Eaton in her paper, deplored the fact that though the word patriotism has been written and spoken more often than ever before, we have not altogether succeeded in teaching true patriotism so long as the stirring up of hatred and violence is defended as a legitimate and necessary means of awakening the people. Miss Eaton said in part: "If we have ever felt for a moment that the work of a school library lacks contact with realities, surely we need feel so no longer, for the school library if it well fills its appointed task will be helping to eliminate passion and hate as well as to do away with that self-satisfied indifference which refuses to recognize the meaning of all that the nations of the world are undergoing. One way in

which the school libraries can do this is by familiarizing children with the highest ideals of the past as a safeguard for the present."

Annie C. Moore, Mary Eileen Ahern, Sherman Williams, Adeline Zachert and Willis H. Kerr participated in the discussion which followed the reading of the three papers.

Elizabeth Knapp, chief of children's department of the Public library of Detroit read a report of the Library committee of the Junior Red Cross. This report defined the purpose of the committee, suggested methods of coördinating library service with Red Cross activities and outlined the plan of co-operating with other organizations such as the National Educational Association. See P. L., 23:333.

The following officers were elected to serve the Library School section next year: President, Helen S. Babcock; Vice-President and Secretary, Anne T. Eaton.

ADELINE B. ZACHERT,
Secretary.

A post-conference pilgrimage

After a strenuous week of meetings at the Saratoga conference of the American library association, the delegates, having become thoroughly imbued with the sense of responsibilities to be added to their already rather heavy load, by the increasing demand for library war service, it became apparent to some that preparedness should be the first step toward withstanding this siege. Accordingly, some 54 wise-headed librarians decided to accept Mr Dewey's generous invitation and to hie themselves to the lovely Adirondack mountains, there to store up the wonderful vitality and vigor that could be extracted from the wonderful mountain air, to build up a physical fortress against the coming onslaught of work by consuming a generous share of the delicious products of the Lake Placid Club farms and dairies, and to scale a few mountains as preparation for scaling the ramparts of public indifference or selfishness to be

encountered when making their next library drive.

A delightful trip on Lake George and Lake Champlain to Westport, and then 35 miles of perfect motoring, including a couple of mountain showers, and a hail storm at the end of the trip, was the initial step of this pilgrimage to the shrine which stands for so much in the hearts of all librarians.

The cosy warmth of welcome awaiting them appealed strongly to the hungry, wet travelers who were soon as much at home as if they had always lived at this remarkable hostelry.

Mr Dewey gave unsparingly of his time, and was constantly planning some new treat for his "library" guests, in the form of motor trips and launch rides, to say nothing of the dinners at the different club houses, where these same "library" guests were privileged to sit at table with Mr and Mrs Dewey and the other members of this interesting family and staff of workers.

To those whose only acquaintance with Mr Dewey, previous to this time, was based on a familiarity with the decimal classification, a slight knowledge of the history of library affairs, not to mention the mental gymnastics performed in solving the pronunciation of certain combinations of letters, the opportunity of meeting him face to face made the trip more than worth while.

From him these novitiates heard at first hand of some of the struggles of earlier days in library work, which paved the way for our present happier conditions.

Even the meals were a challenge to the mental adaptability as well as to the appetite, for it was always necessary to interpret a simplified spelling menu before securing anything to eat.

But it soon became quite easy to order "cotaj cheez with krakers, bluberi mufinz, pikld pearz, or ys cream." Of course, if one remained long enough in this atmosphere, any other method of spelling would seem unnatural.

Every one of the 54 pilgrims left with regret that it was impossible to

linger longer, and some had already considerably stretched their previous notions of how long they could remain away from their posts of duty, but each one left this storehouse of inspiration feeling sure that he or she was better equipped to go "over the top" in the coming conflict, and with the same hope for a possible return that is in the heart of every soldier. A PILGRIM.

Heard on the Train

We sat in the same seat on the train from Saratoga to Albany. Quite naturally we fell into conversation about the conference. With my "Did you enjoy it?" as a start and with only a remark or two interpolated, I was the listener to the following. "Yes, I had a good time but I was lucky. This was my first conference, you know, and I'll confess, I came with my eyes and ears peeled. Every one who came for the first time didn't have as good a time as I did. I heard lots of them talking about it. You know, Miss X—, first impressions are strong and some of them wondered why they had come and will never come again. They didn't meet a soul. You know, we've all read library periodicals and the names of prominent librarians are well known to us, but we'd like to know who they are when we see them. There was no one there to introduce strangers and 'small fry' but even if we didn't meet the really big people, it would have been nice to know who they were when we saw them around. Of course, if they were on the program, you could follow that and find out for yourself. Ever so many got up though, and "talked in meeting" and we didn't know who they were.

Another thing that's queer is this war work. Do you know, a couple of young men sat very near me in the dining-room one day and they were talking it over. No one could accuse me of being an eavesdropper for I couldn't help hearing what they said. They were talking about some kind of a war committee and one asked the other what he thought of putting women in

such places and the reply was to the effect that he thought it was best to keep it all in the hands of the men. Anyway, in his opinion there was only one woman in the profession who was big enough for the place. "We can keep it in our hands in this country but we won't dare to do it all in Europe or else the English and the French will be asking why we are not fighting."

"Do you know," she continued, "I wondered why those two young fellows even now were not in some branch of the service—even at the front. The very idea of those two boys sitting in judgment on all the women in the library profession! Well, we must be nearly to Albany, etc., etc."

PASSENGER.

New York State Library Day

To the A. L. A. conference of 1918 was given the unusual privilege of joining in the centennial celebration of one of the largest and most important libraries in the country. The one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the New York state library fell on April 21, but the celebration was deferred until July, in order to combine it with the meeting of the American Library Association at Saratoga, and to this celebration held on Saturday, July 6, were devoted the final hours of the conference.

In the absence of Dr Finley, state commissioner of education, the deputy commissioner, Dr Finegan, presented the speakers of the day. The principal address, covering the development of the library from the beginning, was delivered by Dr Alexander, of the library committee of the University of the State of New York, and was followed by brief but inspiring addresses from Dr Montgomery, the retiring president of the American Library Association, from Mr Bishop, the incoming president, and from Dr Putnam of the Library of Congress. By Mr Wyer, the present director of the New York state library, was then given an entertaining account of its early librarians, covering the years 1818 to

1844, when the library came under the supervision of the Board of Regents.

The most notable feature of the exercises, however, was the warmly welcomed return of Dr Dewey to that institution to which he had devoted seventeen years of unceasing activity, and which he had changed from a collection of books to a great educational force, extending its influence throughout the entire state, the country and the world. The title of his address, as given on the program, "A sixth of the century," naturally suggested to those aware that this title corresponded to the period of his directorship, the idea of a résumé of the library's history at that time. In view, however, of the fact that such a résumé could have been little else than a catalog of his own labors and achievements, it was recognized as a particularly graceful turn in the proceedings, as well as characteristic of the speaker, that he should have chosen to "look forward and not back."

Nevertheless, for the sake of those whose memory of library matters does not cover that time, it seems fitting that some brief notice should be taken of the historical side, by the mention of a very few of the many notable features of Dr Dewey's administration. "A very few" are all that time and space permit, for anything approaching a full account of his work would involve a careful perusal of seventeen annual reports of the State Library, as well as of local newspapers and library periodicals, and would suffice to fill an extensive biographical publication.

Dr Dewey's services to New York State at that time included not only the development of the State Library collections from about 208,000 volumes to more than 482,000, making the library the largest state library and the fifth largest library of any kind in the country, but also the establishment in 1892 of the Public Libraries division (now the Educational Extension division) to provide for work of that kind now carried on in many other states by the library commissions.

Other specially important features of

his work were the establishment in 1891 of the legislative reference section, and in 1896 of the library for the blind, which sends books, music and magazines to any blind reader in the state, and the inauguration of several very valuable and widely recognized series of publications, among which some of the best known were the *Annual Indexes and Reviews of Legislation*, and the *Best Books List*. A natural appendix to his work in connection with the founding of the American library association was the formation through his efforts in 1890 of the New York library association.

While it is impossible to describe in detail the work of those years, the thoroughness with which Dr Dewey developed its various lines and the advanced character of his methods are indicated by the fact that the dozen years since he resigned have brought to light as advisable only a very few additions and modifications. Rather has his work been perpetuated and carried on through subsequent appointments, his immediate successor as director of the State Library, the present director, the vice-director of the Library school and the chief of the Educational Extension division all having received their professional training in the Library school of which he was the founder and at the time of their attendance also the director.

Of all his contributions to the library interests of the world perhaps no other has been so far-reaching in its influence as the Library school, which, established by him in 1887 as the Columbia College School of Library Economy, followed him to Albany in 1889. Its alumni have at the present time filled more than 2500 positions in the United States and several in foreign countries, and even with the smaller number of alumni at the time of his resignation as director of the school had then filled over 1300 positions. Among the most important now held by those who owe their library training to the Library school founded by him and under his directorship at the time of their attendance

are the positions of the superintendent of the reading room of the Library of Congress, the librarians of the United States department of agriculture, the California state library, the Universities of Illinois and Texas, Purdue university, and Dartmouth and Smith colleges; the assistant librarian of Yale university; the reference librarian of the University of Michigan; the associate librarian of Vassar college; the reference librarian of the John Crerar library; the deputy librarian of the Worcester (Mass.) County law library; the director of the New York public library; the librarians of the Wilmington (Del.) Institute, Providence (R. I.) Athenaeum, Forbes library, Northampton, Mass., and the public libraries of Bangor, Me., Worcester, Mass., Utica, Rochester, the District of Columbia, Seattle and Los Angeles, and the assistant librarian and the superintendent of the children's department of the Brooklyn public library, as well as the directors and instructors in several of the other library schools.

The facts noted above suggest the wealth of material from which an historical address might have been prepared, but historical facts are the common property of all who care for them enough to search them out, and it was therefore specially gratifying to some at least of Dr Dewey's hearers that he should have struck the inspirational note of which he is distinctively and rarely a master, and should have made the appeal for efficiency in spiritual as well as in material things.

Perhaps (?) to some of those who were present at the celebration its most enjoyable feature was the very delightful luncheon served in the rotunda of the State Education building, through the generous kindness of Regent Alexander and the services of the Education Department staff, thereby imparting in a very literal sense a pleasant flavor to the final proceedings of what was generally felt to have been an unusually pleasant and satisfactory conference. While the luncheon was the last meeting of the association as a

body, such of the guests as desired to remain were further made the special guests of the State library, for social visiting, for professional discussion, or for the inspection of the State museum and the State library rooms under the guidance of members of the library staff, breaking away in one's and two's and three's, as train-time came, but without creating the atmosphere of desolation which is the usual accompaniment of the general exodus of the association from the hotels.

A "PIONEER" MEMBER.

National Association of State Libraries

The National association of State libraries held its twenty-first annual meeting at Saratoga Springs, July 2-5. There were two separate and two joint sessions, one of the latter a symposium on libraries and the food problem held jointly with the Agricultural Libraries section of the A. L. A. and the League of library commissions. At the first session held with the Law libraries on July 2, Dr Lawrence B. Evans, librarian of the Massachusetts state library, presented a paper on the workings of the Massachusetts Constitutional convention, dealing particularly with the work of the Commission to compile data, of which he is a member. Mr William P. Capes, director of the New York Bureau of municipal information of New York state, contributed a detailed account of the methods of work of the Bureau, a unique system of team-work among municipalities.

The state library's contribution to war work was the subject matter of the Tuesday evening session. James I. Wyer, jr., director of the New York state library, described the library's plan for collecting material on the state's part in the war with the coöperation of local libraries. The Connecticut military census was described and its functions explained by Mr Godard, librarian of the Connecticut state library.

A round table on legislative reference work and state document exchanges was held on Thursday even-

ing. Mr William E. Hannan, legislative reference librarian of the New York state library, told of the advertising methods used in the New York state library to overcome the handicap of being in a separate building from the legislature. Mr Demarchus C. Brown, leading the discussion on document exchanges, reiterated the recommendations made at the 1908 session that a systematic effort be made to induce all states to make exchanges through the state libraries. A suggestion made by letter by Miss Marvin of Oregon that all but the very essential sendings be discontinued during the war was not approved. The need was emphasized of a law requiring delivery of a certain specified number of documents for use in exchange, because of the frequency with which documents get out of print before exchange distribution can be made. Resolutions were adopted urging a federal law to make obligatory the distribution to state libraries by the Superintendent of Documents of any desired bill of a public nature, and of the printed reports of all public Congressional hearings. It was voted to appoint a committee on the care and exchange of state documents, and to refer to it the question of a revised edition to the pamphlet by Ernest J. Reece on State documents for libraries, published by the University of Illinois in 1915.

George S. Godard, chairman, reported that war conditions had made it impossible to get support for the resumption of publication of the *Official Index to State Legislation*. The committee, however, was continued.

The joint committee on a *Skeleton Index to Statute Law*, Miss Gertrude E. Woodard chairman, recommended that a tentative index be prepared through coöperation of the legislative reference departments of the several states with a central revising committee to be appointed by the two associations, and that legislative reference departments use their influence to have it adopted as a guide by the persons who in the several states prepare the in-

dexes to the legislation of 1919. It was voted to continue the committee with power to carry out the suggestions made.

An amendment to the constitution, to make the constitution more easily amended by dropping out the provisions requiring action by two successive conventions, was introduced and passed to the next convention for final action. A motion was carried that the Executive Committee be guided by the action of the American library association in deciding whether to postpone further meetings until after the war.

The Convention passed memorial resolutions on the death of Mr James L. Gillis, librarian of the California state library and formerly president of the association. Resolutions were also passed deploring the action of the state of Ohio in removing from office for political reasons Charles B. Galbreath, state librarian.

The officers elected to serve for 1918-19 were: President, Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian of California; first vice-president, Lawrence B. Evans, state librarian of Massachusetts; second vice-president, Mrs Maude Barker Cobb, state librarian of Georgia; secretary-treasurer, Mrs Eva May Fowler, acting librarian, Illinois state library.

League of Library Commissions

The first session of the League of library commissions, on July 3, was made notable by the reappearance after 12 years of Dr Melvil Dewey at an A. L. A. convention. The audience showed their esteem by rising to greet Dr Dewey with hearty applause.

Dr Dewey spoke of the present war conditions with a spirit of optimism, showing the great opportunity of the public library in a state of society in which democracy will come to its own. To him it seems that among the many things libraries can do, the greatest service is to aid the movement for simplified spelling. As a firm conviction, he repeated the assertion of the philologist Grimm, that the greatest obstacle

in the way of English linguistic domination of the world, is the absurd and unscientific spelling of the English language. To prove the rapid increase in the progress of English towards becoming the universal language of the world, he quoted statistics showing the relative increase in the last 400 years in the number of persons speaking the important modern languages. The whole tone of the address was optimistic and inspiring.

Following this address, the members of the League, in a discussion lead by William R. Watson of New York, considered the progress made by the various states towards certification of librarians and standardization of libraries. Only several of the states represented at the meeting reported any real action attempted, namely: California, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, and Texas. Minnesota and Wisconsin reported their state associations at work on proposed legislation, and Iowa reported an educational campaign under way. In California, the system of state examination for librarians of county libraries has worked almost perfectly. This system does not, however, include librarians of city libraries nor county libraries, nor library assistants. In Illinois an attempt at legislation was made in a section of a county library bill, but the whole bill was defeated, largely on account of the clause providing for certification. In Indiana, the experience of Illinois was anticipated in one legislature and in a second attempt a county bill without the certification clause was passed. The plan here was to certify all librarians of public libraries but not library assistants. In Massachusetts, the Commission has been improved by legislation to hold examinations for the registration of librarians, but libraries are not compelled to employ registered librarians or assistants. Twenty-seven took the first examination. The New York plan is a merit rather than a certification system, and has met with rather wide approval. In Ohio, there have been several attempts at legisla-

tion for certification but without legal results. In Texas, the county law passed in 1917 provided for certification of county librarians.

On the evening of July 3, the League participated in a joint meeting with the Agricultural Libraries section and the Association of state libraries on the subject of Food Conservation.

On the evening of July 4, the League met to discuss the Methods of control of state supported library activities, under the leadership of Miss Julia A. Robinson, of Iowa. Each state represented reported on the present relationship between the various state library activities and on any attempted or recently achieved consolidation.

In several of the midwestern states recent attempts or plans for consolidation were reported. The reason behind these attempts seems generally to be economy, although it was the expressed opinion of those present that no money saving would result in such consolidation. In several states, it appeared, the state library, more properly the law library or supreme court library is provided for in the constitution, so that unless the constitution should be changed, the only form of consolidation would be to bring all library activities under the state library. This was not considered desirable as long as the state library should be managed by the supreme court judge.

There seemed to be a general opinion that proper consolidation would be desirable to save duplication of effort. Coördination under one board of control rather than subordination of departments under one of the others was favored. North Dakota reported a gain in dignity and no loss in independence from being coördinated with other educational institutions under a state board of regents. Other states, notably, Pennsylvania, have practical consolidation because the state librarian is exofficio secretary of the state library commission and connected with other library activities.

The value of such discussion, the president showed, was to evolve some

ideal plan which could be used as a model by states establishing library systems, as a norm for states reforming their present conditions, and as a goal towards which all states might be tending even though change does not appear imminent or desirable.

At the close of the discussion the members present in business session took action on the amendment to the constitution proposed by Illinois.

Annual meeting. The annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Board shall decide.

After the treasurer reported a balance of \$531.20, it was voted that the Executive Board be authorized to invest in War Savings Stamps any amount of this balance that they thought fit.

HENRY M. SANBORN,
Secretary.

Illinois Library Association 1918 meeting

The Illinois library association will hold its annual meeting at Peoria, October 9, 10, and 11.

Headquarters will be at the Hotel Jefferson. This hotel offers ample accommodation for all the members of the Association, as well as convenient rooms in which to hold the meetings. The rates of the Jefferson are \$1.50 to \$2 for double room, and \$2.50 to \$3 for single room. As business meetings, as well as social affairs, are apt to be much more promptly attended if all stay under the same roof, it is urged that as many as possible stop at headquarters.

The program this year will be unusually interesting. There will be discussions on general problems, technical problems and war work. Librarians of both large and small libraries will be certain to find something of value. Some things on the program are:

On Wednesday evening, W. W. Bishop, president of the A. L. A., Changing ideals of librarianship.

On Thursday, Joy E. Morgan, The book and the soldier; Dr Frances W. Shephardson, Collection and preservation of local

war material; Miss Frances Wetmore, Americanization; Dr. M. L. Raney, Overseas library service; Dr W. N. C. Carlton, Enemy propaganda and Miss Massee with a book symposium.

The trustees' section will discuss the definite subject of Finances: source, size and disposition, under direction of Miss Ahern.

The children's librarians will discuss their problems under direction of Miss Fanny R. Jackson.

Mr E. D. Tweedell will conduct a round-table discussion centering around vocational guiding and related questions.

Be sure to come early and stay until the end of the meeting.

JOSIE B. HOUCHENS,
Secretary.

Henry E. Huntington, the builder of "what constitutes the mightiest monument to the world's learning ever erected by a private purse," has announced his intention of giving his valuable library to the public after his death.

He will wait until after the war to erect the library building which is to house his collection but, when this building is finished, he plans to make his book treasures available for the use of all scholars and students.

Many of the books in this collection are without a mate and are, therefore, priceless. Several million dollars have been spent in the purchase of various parts of his collection and, in his opinion, it is impossible to put a money valuation on the entire collection. The organization of the collection has been under way for several years and the task is still uncompleted.

After managing the Library Department of The Boston Book Co. for over 20 years, Mr Frederick W. Faxon has purchased his department, and will conduct it as a separate business under the name of F. W. Faxon Co., from July 1. He will continue the business as heretofore, and the purchase includes the large stock of periodicals and society transactions, as well as the book publications, the *Magazine Subject-Index* and *Dramatic Index*, and the *Bulletin of Bibliography*.

Library Meetings

California—The State library association held its annual meeting at the Hotel Del Monte, where the program, spirit and environment all conduced to make it one of the most effective meetings held. The keynote of the meeting was unity and service. The message to the librarian was to know where to find what was wanted when it was wanted. Dr Frederick Burk, of the San Francisco state normal school, in a most entertaining address, said: "The only thing in the whole process of education is to teach children to read properly. The rest is wholly biological." Books as tools of the teacher's trade and the necessity for the teacher's being acquainted with them in order to render the best educational service, was emphasized by various speakers. Music and dramatic reading furnished entertainment throughout the sessions.

Iowa—The Des Moines library club closed its year's work June 25. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, F. D. Spaulding, Public library; vice-president, Lavina Steele, State library; secretary, Helen Proudfit, children's librarian, City library; treasurer, Mary Marks, Iowa Library commission; chairman of the Program committee, Miss Ethel B. Virtue, Historical library; chairman of the Social committee, Florence Price, State library. The meetings during the last year were devoted to war activities. In February the Library club joined with the Press and Authors clubs in presenting John Masefield in a lecture. Other meetings of the year were of a social nature with professional subjects for discussion. Miss Reba Davis, president for last year, is employed in Government service, acting as hospital librarian at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas.

Massachusetts—The third Summer conference of the Free public library commission of Massachusetts was held through the courtesy of the Simmons college authorities at the college, July 30-August 1. The program was arranged with the problems of the small library in view.

The librarians were welcomed by Mr Lowe of the Commission in the absence of Mr Belden.

Discussions were as follows: Saving of books in the small library; Bulletin for small libraries; Base hospital libraries; Coöperation with the Food Administration; Available library sources of Boston for the small library; How libraries can help rural schools; Uncle Sam's gift books; Non-fiction for small libraries; Evaluation of fiction; Preservation of local history; The librarian's opportunity for war service. A round-table by Miss E. Louise Jones discussed puzzling problems, met in the small libraries.

The librarians had the privilege of visiting the Overseas Dispatch office at Harvard where Dr Mawson explained in detail the work of the office. They also visited the Food Facts Bureau and other cottages on Boston Common devoted to food conservation activities.

New Hampshire—The annual meeting and the most delightful gathering in the history of the association was held at Claremont, June 13-14. The principal address of the meeting was made by Harry K. Lloyd, an illuminating talk on stained glass. Avoiding technicalities he gave his hearers something of an insight into the workings of the artist's mind, the means by which he seeks to express his ideas and his use of symbolism. The talk was illustrated with several of his own designs.

The members were taken by automobile to Saint-Gaudens studio. It was a beautiful drive of about eight miles along the rivers. When Saint-Gaudens was reached the gracious hospitality of Mrs Saint-Gaudens made the visit a memorable one, aside from the beauty of the place and the memories connected with it.

At the evening session, Miss Edith Guerrier of the U. S. Food Administration, was the speaker. She urged librarians to press on to greater service. Mr Lowe told of the Camp Devens library work.

The session on Friday morning was given over to various reports and a dis-

cussion of war books. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, Elsie Gaskin, Derry; vice-presidents, Caroline B. Clement, Manchester, Mrs Lillian Wadleigh, Meredith; secretary, Sarah Gilmore, Claremont; treasurer, Annabell C. Secombe, Milford.

A goodly number of Vermont librarians were at the Claremont meeting and added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

After the closing session the librarians visited the Stowell library which is doing excellent work as a community center. This library owns a book wagon and trips are made to outlying districts even in severe winter weather.

Northwest

At the recent meeting of the Northwest Library Association, the following officers were selected:

President, John Ridington, University of British Columbia; First vice-president, William Brewster, Portland, Oregon; second vice-president, Mirpah Blair, Salem, Oregon; secretary, Elizabeth Topping, Everett, Washington; treasurer, Eva W. Graves, Seattle, Washington.

Coming meetings

The Illinois library association will meet in Peoria, October 9-11.

The annual joint meeting of the Indiana library trustees association and the Indiana library association will be held at Hotel Severn, Indianapolis, October 17-18.

The Kansas library association will meet in Pittsburg, Kansas, between October 21 and 24. Exact time noted on programs.

The Keystone state library club will hold its annual meeting at Uniontown, Pa., October 9-12.

The annual meeting of the Missouri library association will be held in Kansas City, October 23-25.

The meeting of the Ohio library association will be held in Columbus, Ohio, October 1-3.

The Wisconsin library association will meet in Milwaukee October 9-11.

Interesting Things in Print

The St. Louis public library *Bulletin* for July contains a list of 2082 titles of periodicals currently received in that library.

The *Book Bulletin* of the Toronto public library, in a friendly letter to the users of the library, makes the following note:

The war book most in demand and perhaps one of the best yet done is *Marching on Tanga* in which Captain Young tells of the struggle in Africa against the Germans.—*Book Bulletin, Toronto public library.*

The August number of the *Monthly Bulletin* of the St. Louis public library contains an annotated index to plays for children, prepared by Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, supervisor of children's work. The "Index" of 56 pages covers the subject from all sides.

The *Maine Library Bulletin* for July is largely devoted to descriptive and narrative history of the American flag. In this number is gathered material which could be used on almost any occasion where the flag is under discussion.

"East o' the sun and west o' the moon; and other Norse fairy tales" (Putnam) is added in a recent edition of this popular theme to the very desirable list of fairy tales for children's work. They are prepared by George W. Dasent, D. C. L., and may be pushed, sure of a welcome from the children.

Volume 2, Number 6 of the *Minnesota Historical Bulletin* has interesting information concerning the social and economic effects of the Civil war with special reference to Minnesota; the historical records of the Scandinavians in America; the removal of the Sioux Indians from Minnesota, and an appraisal of the late Rev. Father Arthur E. Jones of St. Mary's College, Montreal.

"Reaching the readers in war time" by Mrs N. M. DeLaughter, is an account of publicity work in the St. Louis

public library with special reference to war activities. It hardly seems possible that any phase of this subject has been left out. The pamphlet is amply illustrated by photographs of nearly a hundred telling scenes.

Seize every opportunity to have people read "Our Job" in April number of *Food News Notes*. Reprint it in local papers, have reprints made from that and put them in the books lent, on the counters for distribution, hand them to ushers and in every possible way get the message into the minds of the citizenry.

Mrs Eleanor E. Ledbetter, author of "Winning friends and citizens for America," was released in the early summer for six months from the service of the Public library of Cleveland to work for the Cleveland Americanization committee. A recent pamphlet by her, entitled "Slovaks of Cleveland," presents in a concise but striking way the number, quality, advancement and future prospects of the Slovak population of Cleveland. Without being over-statistical it gives a clear idea of the number, the quality and character of that part of Cleveland's foreign population. Mrs Ledbetter presented before the Immigrant Education Institute of New York state a lecture on "The library as an Americanization agency." A new pamphlet on "The Jugo-Slavs of Cleveland" is in preparation.

The Century Company has issued one of the most important books of the year, "Keeping Our Fighters Fit," by Edward F. Allen, written in coöperation with Raymond D. Fosdick. This book may be called important because it is a book of correct information and reassurance that will be very welcome to relatives and friends of men in the military camps. It will not only make the general public intelligent as to what the government is doing in the process of making soldiers out of the men but it will give confidence and, in a measure, peace of mind to friends and relatives and enable them to coöperate more intelligently for the benefit of the men who are going into the war.

"You can say all you like about patriotism, but patriotism ain't just marchin' off to fight for your country. It's usin' your neighbors and your country, right, every day in the week, includin' Sunday. Some folks think patriotism is buildin' a bonfire once a year and lettin' her blaze up. But the real thing is keepin' your own little fire a-going steady, right here where you live. And it's thinking of that little fire at home that makes the best soldier."—H. H. Knibbs.

In the *American School* for July, is a very definite and carefully worked out plan for filing material which has been found useful for every classroom.

Few teachers have recognized the value of printed matter that comes in such as pamphlets, bulletins, etc., sufficiently, to arrange it so that it is easily accessible, when needed for reference. Much valuable time is wasted and often the material itself is valueless, when found.

The writer of the article, Miss Ovitz, advocates the selection of the vast flood which is constantly pouring in, of that material, which will be called for subsequently, and then, to make it available with a minimum of trouble. Miss Ovitz gives directions for the arrangement of the material which are simple.

It was frequently expressed at the Bookmen's yearly gathering in Chicago in July that that city is not only the most feasible meeting place for book people from a geographical standpoint, but it appears to be the greatest book-reading community, judging from carefully tabulated statistics. Home circulation of books from the Public library of Chicago in 1917 was 5,602,806; cardholders numbered 212,030. This means 2 books drawn from the library for each inhabitant. In New York there is one bookseller for every 22,591 population, one in Boston for every 11,974, and one in Chicago for every 12,930. About 100 publishing firms of all classes are now listed as doing business with Chicago as headquarters. Chicago is also the headquarters of the American library association.

Library Schools

California state library

The sixth class of the California state library school began work Wednesday morning, September 18. There were 15 students, coming from different sections of the state, and representing six universities.

There will be several minor changes in the curriculum. The courses in book selection and school library service have been considerably enlarged, while several lectures on subject headings will be given as an independent course.

In the practice work schedule, a plan has been adopted according to which each student will have work in the different departments of the State library for three afternoons each week instead of five, thus allowing more time for the preparation of assignments.

Tillie de Bernardi, '18, will spend a year in Boston, where she will do settlement work at Denison House.

Margaret Girdner, '17, has resigned her position in the California state library to accept a position as assistant reference librarian in the Palo Alto public library.

Margaret Potter, '16, has resigned her position as assistant in the Stanislaus County free library to accept a similar position in the Fresno County free library.

Los Angeles public library

Marion L. Horton, formerly instructor in the Los Angeles public library school, becomes acting principal with the opening of the 1918-19 term. Since Mrs. Brewitt's resignation in June, Miss Horton has had charge of all details of student work and appointments, of new applicants, and entrance examinations. She also prepared and conducted the special summer course for junior assistants, which, undertaken as an experiment, has already proved its value to the library. The enthusiasm of spirit and high technical excellence that have characterized Miss Horton's work throughout her school relationship are assurances for the continued development of the school under her direction.

EVERETT R. PERRY, Librarian.

New York public library

The period of preliminary work for students who have had no library experience opened on Monday, Septem-

ber 9. A number of instructional hours are included in this, the purpose being to hasten the process of familiarizing students with library terms and the simpler library methods. The first semester proper began on Monday, September 23. No marked changes in the outline of the work are contemplated, but except for some incidental discussion of the subject the instruction in technical French and German is to be dropped. The hours thus released will be devoted to increased emphasis on administrative topics and to more careful inspection and study of the varied types of libraries represented in New York City. It is probable also that last year's plan of "lumping" assignments for practical work will in the coming winter be carried still further, and that these will be concentrated in four consecutive weeks of field service, as is the custom in some other library schools.

The advanced courses are scheduled to open on Tuesday, October 1. The work necessary to qualify for the diploma is, in amount, the same as that required last year, but because of war conditions there will be less latitude than formerly as regards electives. For the first semester there will be offered courses in administration, book-selection, advanced reference, and children's work and literature, and for the second semester courses in administration, book-selection, book-making and collecting, and the library and the community. The compilation of bibliographies and the preparation of theses will remain as possible substitutes for certain of the instructional courses.

R. R. Anderson, '16-17 (Pratt Institute, '11), is now Service Directory librarian for the Community Clearing House, New York City.

Dorothy Anderton, '14-15, has resigned from the New York public library.

Harriet Boswell, '17-18 (Atlanta, '16), has been appointed assistant secretary of the Kentucky library commission, Frankfort.

Lucy Condell, '15-16 (Drexel Institute, '04), is now with the U. S. Port Supply Office, New York City.

Ruth Fleming, '15-16, is reference librarian at the Oregon state library.

Cornelia Johnson, '17-18, is assisting in the library at Camp Travis, Texas.

Ruth McLaughlin, '12-13, is with the Production Division of the U. S. Ordnance Department, Chicago.

Mrs Winifred Mahon Sanford, '16-17, is chief file clerk for the Vulcan Steel Products Company, New York City.

Jennie Reid, '16-18, has been appointed first assistant in the Peoples' library, Newport, R. I.

Gertrude Rhodes, '17-18, has taken a position as assistant in the library of the American Social Hygiene association, New York City.

Minnie F. Sloat, '17-18, is index and catalog clerk for the U. S. Ordnance Department, Bridgeport, Conn.

Edith Tiemann, '11-13, became registrar of the Library school of the New York public library, September 1.

Elizabeth T. Turner, '16-17, has resigned her place in the Kansas City (Mo.) public library to become an assistant in the circulation department of the New York public library.

Janet Vrooman, '16-17, has left her place in the library for the blind at the New York public library, and is now at her home in Kingston, N. Y.

Mary E. Winslow, '13-15, has been compelled by ill health to give up her position in the circulation department of the New York public library.

ERNEST J. REECE,

New York state library

The school opened Sept. 18. While the attendance will be considerably smaller than usual, the loss in attendance will probably be a little less than was anticipated earlier in the year.

Several changes occur in the faculty. Katharine Dame has gone on leave of absence, to do Red Cross work in Italy. Her place will be taken by Sabra W. Vought, '01, who will divide her time between the school and the State library. Jennie D. Fellows will give up her course in advanced cataloging. The two courses will probably be consolidated in one briefer required course. Edna M. Sanderson, the school's registrar, will go to Washington during October and November to assist Caroline Webster in personnel work for camp and hospital libraries. Her work will be largely assumed by Hazel M. Leach, '19, who has just joined the staff of the school.

Mr Biscoe has given another rather notable lot of book-plates to the school collection. It includes several rare plates

by E. D. French, not previously in the school's possession.

The annual report for 1917, which was much delayed in passing through the press, is now out. Any of the alumni who have not received one may have a copy on application to the school.

Since the regular commencement exercises, Rachel A. Harris and T. C. Tai, both of the class of 1918, have been granted the degree, Bachelor of Library Science.

Nathan R. Levin, B. L. S., '18, now on the staff of the Chicago public library, was married to Henrietta Zuckerman, August 31.

FRANK K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

The class of 1919 promises to come up to our usual standards, certainly the members bring to the common store a breadth and variety of experience that augurs well for an interesting school year. There are four from the Pacific Coast, four from Greater New York, three Canadians, three Pennsylvanians, two from Connecticut, two from the District of Columbia, two from Ohio, and one each from New Hampshire, New York state, Florida, and Wyoming. All but four have been in libraries, and experience in the methods of many different kinds of libraries will add interest to the class room discussions. Large systems like New York, Brooklyn, Portland, Oregon, and Washington, D. C., medium sized libraries as Hartford, Conn., and Harrisburg, Pa., and smaller town and village libraries are all represented, as well as children's work, high school library work, and that of several special libraries,—all of which promise to bring forth varying points of view and practice. In addition to library work several of the students have had business or secretarial experience, three have taught and one has been in a book store.

Alumni notes

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of

Ida W. Lentilhon, '12, Queens Borough public library, to Joseph Ervin Rutledge.

Florence L. Crosier, '14, Cleveland public library, to Arthur Bennet Loomis, Jr.

Inger H. Garde, '15, branch librarian of the Copenhagen public library, to Peter Fangel.

Mary Louise Knox, '16, to Robert Roland Finster, of the New York public library.

Florence Dewey, '17, Waterloo public library, to Frank Leslie Novak.

The following appointments among the members of the class of 1918 were made too late for inclusion in the July number:

Mrs Emilie P. Chichester, assistant, office of the Mayor's committee for community councils.

Anne Cunningham, assistant, circulation department, New York public library.

Marjory L. Hawley, assistant, Bloomingdale branch, New York public library.

Ruth Hoffman, assistant, children's department, New York public library.

Mary Brown Humphrey, reference librarian, State college of Washington, Pullman, Wash.

Lillian Sabin, assistant librarian, State normal school, Tempe, Arizona.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE.

Riverside library

The course for candidates for work in camp libraries ended August 9. Five men completed the course and have been assigned as follows:

Lincoln Doty Brown, New York, has been assigned to Camp Logan, Houston, Texas.

Robert S. Fullerton, Boston, has been assigned to Camp Travis, San Antonio, Texas.

Merwyn, J. Newberg, San Bernardino, Calif., has been assigned to Camp Cody, Deming, New Mexico.

William E. Blaikie, Los Angeles, formerly of Boston, has been assigned to the camps and stations at Los Angeles Harbor.

George E. Chase, Walnut Creek, Calif., formerly of Boston, will not be available until October 1, when he will be assigned.

It is notable of these men that they range from six feet to six feet, six inches in height. One is a Tufts college graduate, one Leland Stanford Junior university graduate, one Boston university and two have had special education beyond a high school. Two other Riverside Library service school men are now in camp library service: Alvan W. Clark, formerly of San Jose, is at Camp Sevier, South Carolina, and Ralph Beals, formerly of Santa Ana, now at Camp Cody, New Mexico.

These men were selected from 75

candidates and should make good. Another group will be formed soon.

Miss Edith McCright, cataloger at Riverside public library, will go to the El Paso public library, September 1.

Miss Margaret Guthrie, '18, has been appointed librarian of the Orange Union high school, California.

Betty Mary Smith, '18, will begin work at the El Paso public library, October 1.

Miss Eva West, '14, has been appointed cataloger at the Lane medical library, San Francisco, to begin October 1.

Miss Elma C. Schowalter, '16, has been appointed librarian at McKendree college, Lebanon, Ill.

Miss Lucia Hoisholt, '17, was married at Oakdale, Calif., to Captain Nolan West Ferguson.

JOSEPH F. DANIELS.

University of Washington

The following members of the library school of the University at Washington have taken position in the Public library of Seattle:

Louise Coleman, '18; Helen Corbitt, '18; Elizabeth Henry, '18; Doris Holt, '18; Hilda Plimmer, '18; Edith Wallace, '18;

Other appointments are as follows:

K. I. van der Lippe, Wisconsin, '17; Mrs Mabel S. Williams, Wisconsin, '-; Florence M. Waller, N. Y., '18; Sonja Wennerblad, Wisconsin, '17. Harriet Lietch has been granted a year's leave of absence and will be librarian of the A. L. A. dispatch office at Newport News, Va.

Lillian Anderson, '16, has been appointed librarian of the Lincoln high school, Tacoma, Washington.

Dorothy Hayes, '18, has been appointed to a position in the circulation department, Seattle public library.

Helen Stone, '18, comes to the University of Washington library October 1, as circulation assistant.

Nell Unger, '18, has become librarian of the Lincoln high school, Seattle.

Ruth Reynolds, '16, was married in May, 1918, to Edwin E. Severns of the U. S. Navy. Mrs Severns will continue her work in the Seattle public library for the present.

Harriett Smith, '16, was married June 1, '18, to Lieut. Frank S. Buckley.

W. E. HENRY.

Summer schools

The seventeenth session of the Iowa summer school for library training was held June 17-July 26, at the State university, Iowa City. There were 27 regular students, of whom 4 were from outside the state, and 5 special students were registered in special

courses. In addition to the regular course of lectures special lectures were given on the present war by the departments of history, economics, sociology, and commerce which were open to the students.

Chautauqua

The session of the summer school this year, July 6-August 17, was the first under the new plan of developing a full year's course in installments.

Two groups of students were in session, those who had taken the training and those who were attending school for the first time. There will be three groups in 1919 and four in the years following. The first group will graduate in 1920, when the school will be full-fledged.

The first group had regular lessons in library methods, the second group did advanced work, including history of libraries, book making, types of libraries and technical records.

The instructors of the school were Mary E. Downey, director, Anna R. Phelps, Mary L. Sutliff, Miss Mabel Bragg and Miss May Byerly.

Special lectures were given by Prof. Vaughan MacCaughy on Nature study books, Louis Walden on Printing, Mrs Harriet McCrory Grove on The Library and the community and New Thought books, Mrs O B Eichelberger on Illuminated manuscripts and Miss Adeline Zachert on The development of the Rochester public library.

Visits were made to the libraries of Westfield, Maysville and Jamestown. Opportunity was found for hearing many of the Chautauqua lectures.

The class consisted of 31 students: Ohio, 13; Indiana, 3; Michigan, 3; Kansas, 3; New York, 2; Texas, 2; West Virginia 2; Utah, 2; Florida, 1. and Illinois, 1.

United War Work Campaign

There will be a United War Work campaign opened in the United States, the week beginning November 11, to collect funds for the seven organizations, not military, that are engaged in practical work for the welfare of the

soldiers and sailors. The sum of money to be raised is enormous, \$170,000,000, and it is thought by those acquainted with the situation that a more effective campaign can be organized and more definite results obtained in consolidation of campaign work. The Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., American Library Association, War Camp community service, Knights of Columbus, Jewish Welfare Board, and the Salvation Army will be grouped and organized into one great unit for the purpose of raising the means to enable them to continue to serve. This does not mean that the war service of these organizations will be merged. Each will continue to perform its specific and particular function in its relation to the soldiers and sailors.

The Library War Service certainly will continue exactly as it has begun on a constantly expanding program to establish and maintain its own direct service, through camp libraries, dispatch offices and overseas organizations, as well as to supply books for the other organizations combined. Individual work in libraries may be done before the campaign to interest and inform the public as to the need for contributions to carry on the library work, but when the actual campaign is on, the work will be merged into one tremendous effort to bring in the largest amount of money possible. The campaign will be undertaken through the agency of consolidated committees rather than separate bodies. The present organization for the collection of funds will be disturbed as little as possible, and the policy of addition rather than elimination will be adopted. Collections will be distributed on a pro rata basis between the societies participating in the campaign, and it has been decided that specified subscriptions shall not be asked for, but if given shall be credited to the particular association, and such amount is to be a part of the total sum raised and not in addition to it. The expenses incurred in joint work in connection with the drive will be paid on a pro rata basis.

Department of School Libraries

Report on School Libraries

A very comprehensive report on High School libraries for the year ending June, 1918, was made to the Library department of the National Education Association at the Pittsburgh meeting, July 1-6, 1918, by the chairman, Mary E. Hall. The reports from New England and the Northwest were not received in time to be incorporated at the Pittsburgh meeting.

When printed in the Proceedings of the N. E. A. the report will be well worth reading. It is too long to give more than brief extracts from it here. The report had a two-fold purpose, to report progress and suggest standards, and to report distinctive work done by high schools. It will be suggestive to librarians and teachers in high schools, especially in connection with war service.

The standardization of efficient work in the high school library was endorsed by the North Central association of colleges and secondary schools. The State Education departments of New York and Wisconsin have taken action requiring trained library service in the high schools of those states. Commendation of Mr. Certain's report on standards and organization was emphasized, (copies of report may be obtained from C. C. Certain, Cass technical high school, Detroit, Michigan). In Mr. Certain's report, five years from March, 1918, is named as the time in which plans for a proper training course for teacher-librarians will be prepared. It is expected that these courses will be given by the state library commission by competent teachers. Some states are already doing this. Minnesota, Missouri, and Michigan have already offered courses for teachers of school libraries. In Wisconsin, the department has notified school principals of the state that beginning with the year 1919-20 every high school will be expected to have one member of its faculty a teacher-librarian, who has had

at least the training given in the course for teacher-librarians in the University of Wisconsin or its equivalent.

In New York state, four kinds of certificates are given; permanent certificates for those who are college graduates and also graduates of approved library schools; five-year certificates to graduates of approved library schools, and after five years of satisfactory service permanent certificates will be issued to such applicants; three-year certificates will be issued to graduates of an approved short library course, provided such graduates have had at least two years of library experience; one-year certificates will be issued to graduates of a short library course provided they have had one year's library experience, and to graduates of approved colleges and normal schools who have had no library experience, provided they have had one or more sessions of the state library institutes conducted by the state library and are certified as having done satisfactory work. Renewals of certificates will be made when satisfactory evidence is given that acceptable work has been done during the time of the original certificate. The University of Missouri has issued a bulletin setting out high school library standards and suggestions for improvement. The standard set is that named in Mr. Certain's report.

Report was made on a large number of exhibits of books, lists, pictures, etc., illustrating the work of the modern high school library, which were sent to state meetings of teachers in Maryland, Georgia and Texas. War service work in high school libraries has been done along the following lines: helping the pupils understand why America is at war, stressing the reading of American biography, great patriotic speeches, books setting forth American ideals, etc.; Americanization of foreigners by the reading of books recommended for study purposes and

home use; arousing enthusiasm by interesting students in forms of war service work, Liberty Loans, War Savings Stamps, Red Cross, Food conservation, camp libraries, etc. In a large number of cases the library has stood back of the school, supplying bulletin boards, clippings, pictures, pamphlets, magazine articles and reading lists.

The report goes into details regarding a number of plans followed by teachers by the aid of high school libraries. Discussions of the following topics have been found most helpful: Democratic ideals of the founders of America and of today; Ideals of Frederick the Great, Bismarck and the Kaiser contrasted with the ideals of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson, etc.; Aristocracy in German education, social life, German universities, the press—a contrast with the freedom of thought and education in America. Lists of reading material relating to all these have been distributed. Among the books found most useful were the following: Curtin—Land of the deepening shadow; Smith—Soul of Germany; Weyl—New Democracy; Frederick the Great—Confessions; Notestein & Stoll—Conquest and Kultur; Ohlinger—Out of their own mouths.

The report on bulletin board work is extremely interesting, and the selection and organization of clippings and pamphlets as war material strongly emphasized. A card index to magazine articles on war topics of interest to high school students is also commended. Pictures, posters, scrapbooks are also valuable. A special library war table with books on various phases of the war with annotated reading lists for reference has proved worth while. Articles for reading at patriotic meetings, Red Cross sessions, etc., are part of the high school library work in many places. The high school papers announce weekly in many institutions various library resources on gardening, food conservation, Red Cross, etc. Food conservation offers opportunity without limit to the high school library for

service. Most libraries report busy days in keeping the students supplied with material for four-minute speeches which the English teachers in all parts of the country require for the Liberty Loan drives. Material for five-minute speeches in Red Cross work was given to the English department in connection with the drive for funds.

In the Girls' high school, Brooklyn, the library reading room was used for a surgical dressing workroom every afternoon from three to five. At Shenley high school, Pittsburgh, the library was turned into a workroom for making splint belts. Boys and girls worked together and the work was finished on schedule time. The book drive for libraries for soldiers and sailors offered a splendid opportunity to bring books to the special attention of the high school students, as they helped in numberless ways to solicit, collect and prepare the books for shipment. Chicago high schools have been especially efficient in preparing scrapbooks for hospitals. The work was supervised by the librarians. Some English classes undertook to prepare the scrapbooks while material was obtained from the library as a source of pictures and stories. In the Brooklyn training school for teachers short story holders were filled with stories from magazines. Pupils did the work under the direction of the librarian.

Teachers' Views on Libraries

Some little time ago the superintendent of a prosperous town in Indiana wrote his teachers as follows:

I am on the Library Trustees' program tomorrow in Indianapolis. I should like to have a statement of some views from you on "How the public library can help the schools." Will you kindly write a few statements on the above subject on this sheet below, some time to-day and hand the sheet to Miss Hernley? I shall be very much obliged.

The teachers addressed replied frankly and their answers are most illuminating in more than one direction. The answers follow:

1. I do not consider it economical or wise to set pupils hunting here and there in a pub-

lic library for isolated facts, even though a complete comprehension of their text books depends upon those facts. Reference books, however, are good when used wisely. The public libraries in most cities and towns of Indiana, which I have visited, are already proving valuable assets to the schools. More depends upon the teacher than upon the library. It is sufficient that the library keep its reference books up to date in every respect.

2. I think the greatest need in our Public library here for my work is historical references that are more easily interpreted by high school boys and girls. The librarian might teach the use of the card index and the process of gathering material on a given subject. Illustrative material of great value might be gathered from magazines and put on file.

3. a. By furnishing good reference books so that the pupils' knowledge of the various subjects may be augmented.

b. Increase the pupil's interest in his work.

c. Good pictures will be valuable in the accomplishment of both these objects.

4. A library attendant who knows not only what boys and girls may read for entertainment and profit, but who will cooperate with the schools by keeping informed as to their reading lists and aiding to keep out of the hands of pupils, the things that will lead away from school interests. Reference books that will aid rather than cover up information.

5. The public library educates the smaller children by reading aloud, telling stories and through pictures. Thus it gives literature to the children as the race learned it in its childhood, through the ear and with the help of pictures.

It also should enlarge the student's point of vision and supplement the class room work.

The public library is an integral part of public education. If this is so, then it follows that schools and libraries, which have the same end in view, should be closely allied.

Furnish printed lists of topics discussed in current magazines each week for use in debates and work in current events. Furnish pupils instruction on use of library.

6. Needed—A librarian whose knowledge of the school curriculum is comprehensive enough to anticipate the pupil's needs. Too much time is wasted in searching for material.

Frequent consultations between librarian and teacher.

a. The reference library separated from the magazine reading room and in charge of a *capable* reference librarian who has no duties aside from the reference library.

b. Rule for silence *enforced* that pupils' time and attention be undivided.

c. Teach pupils *how to use* the helps offered by the library. Let classes of twelve or fifteen visit the library to be instructed and guided through each department.

d. A clean, well ordered stack room is a pleasure and an inspiration. The accumulation of dirt and dust, old papers and worn out books do not make shelves inviting, but foster wrong ideas about books.

7. Each pupil in the eighth grade is required to read outside of school one good book during each six weeks' period. The Public library makes it possible to do this. Pupils who have never read good books are getting the habit. It is not required that they read fiction only.

The many magazines in the library afford an opportunity for keeping up with the times.

8. Before school opens in September the librarian should secure a list of books to be used in English and in all other classes. Then she should look through these and list all important references contained therein, also all material that is related to the particular subject. This information should be filed for reference.

Again, modern or recent magazines should be conned to secure all material dealing with new subjects, which cannot be found in books. Many recent inventions, political parties and military terms could be studied if this were done.

9. a. If the reference books were more readable instead of being so cumbersome and exhaustive, they would be more valuable for public school children.

b. I believe that the presence in the public library of some one who is really in touch with the reading lists of the schools and with the curriculum required in the schools, would prove a great help.

The dangers in reading mediocre books to the growing mind of the child were stressed by Clara Whitehall Hunt, superintendent of the children's department of the Brooklyn public library, in a recent lecture. She said in part:

The bad influence of the morally vicious book is recognized. Too few people realize the harmfulness of the mediocre-reading habit.

It takes brains as well as hearts and consciences to make strong character. Many children's minds are being reduced to pulp by debauches of reading weak books.

We must be careful about the kind of books on this war which we give to children. Do not buy low-class battlefield-thrillers tossed off by the juvenile-story writer to put money into his pocket. Only a writer of serious and honest purpose should be allowed to speak to our children through stories of the war.

News From the Field East

Agnes F. Judkins has joined the staff of the Public library of Somerville.

Mary P. Wiggin, N. Y. State, '17, has been engaged as librarian of the Public library at Danbury, Conn.

Florence I. Holmes, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '12, is engaged in indexing and cataloging for the Bridgeport, Conn., district of the Ordnance Office.

Mrs L. F. Spofford has resigned as librarian of the West Somerville branch library to become librarian of the Public library of Attleboro, Mass.

Elisa Jebsen, N. Y. State, '17-'18, who has been engaged on a special piece of cataloging at Harvard University library during the summer, will remain on the staff for the coming year.

Venice A. Adkins, N. Y. State, '12-'13, resigned her position with the Circulation department of the New York public library to become indexer and cataloger for the Bridgeport district of the Ordnance Office at Bridgeport, Conn.

Yale university is to have a new library building in a more central location, with sufficient room for growth. The present library buildings and the site they occupy have been relinquished to the college for its development.

Miss Ethel M. Johnson, who organized the special library on Women in Industry in 1910, and for 8 years has been connected with the Women's Industrial Union, has resigned her position. The Union for war economy is to unite the library with the Boston Book Shop for Children.

The annual report of the Public library of Bangor, Maine, records number of volumes in the library, 57,560; card holders, 5287; circulation, 81,030, a slight decrease in circulation probably due to an increase in Red Cross work. Gifts received numbered 4279. A number of organizations used the lecture room with increasing satisfaction.

Margaret J. Morgan, for the past two years the head of the Foreign department in the Providence public library, was married, July 6, 1918, to Edgar P. Bengert, of Columbus, Ohio. Miss Morgan had proved a worthy successor to Miss Reid, under whom the department was organized and developed.

The Forbes library of Northampton, Mass., has sent out throughout the community in which it is situated a questionnaire asking the co-operation of all who can and will help in an effort to complete and verify a list of Hampshire men in the service of the United States. These records will be carefully preserved as a valuable part of the permanent archives of the library.

The annual report of the Forbes library, Northampton, Mass., records 147,009 v.; 111,161 pictures; 11,244 music; 2156 maps; 23,769 pamphlets, on its shelves. Many of these were received through consolidation with the Northampton public library, and many were specially presented. During the 23 years since its founding Forbes library has grown to be one of the large public libraries of New England, being fifth in size in the state.

The library has made up two interesting albums containing photographs of soldiers from Northampton. It has also made a roster of its company, giving the rank, date of enlistment, date and place of birth, nearest relative with residence, of all its members complete to July, 1917. It has also made a card index of all men in the immediate vicinity who have enlisted in any branch of the service. Clippings relating to the Northampton company and matters of local interest concerning the war are being preserved for binding.

The last paragraph summarizes the extensive alterations made during 1916-1917.

The report of the Examining committee appointed by the trustees of the Boston public library to examine and report on the needs and conditions of

the library, suggests different things to be done. It strongly urges that ways and means be devised to increase the number of registrations and the circulation of books. The transfer of the purchase of books for supplementary reading and reference books now undertaken by the public schools to the library and its branches is also urged. The sum spent from the school appropriation for these two purposes in 1917 amounted to about \$17,000. Special attention was called to the low salaries paid in the institution as compared with those of other cities with comparable factors of population and library equipment. The committee suggests that a reduction of the working staff and higher salaries paid to a smaller but more effective force would be desirable, and it also seconds the recommendation of the trustees that a careful survey of the library by highly qualified experts be made.

The report of the librarian is the first that he has made as the administrative head. He calls attention to the fact that no repairs of any consequence on the Copley Square structure have been made since 1895. The addition on Blagden street will give in part a much needed relief to the main building. Number of volumes in entire system, 1,157,326; added during the year, 44,222; expenditures for books and material, \$50,193. The reference use of books outnumbered the home use. The circulation was 2,074,455. At the central library the home use of fiction was 47.2 per cent, and of non-fiction 52.8. In a population of 745,439 the number of cardholders is 101,891.

Central Atlantic

Evelyn Brooke, Pratt '16, has gone over seas with the Red Cross.

Dorothy D. Gibbs, N. Y. State, '19, has been appointed assistant in the New York state library.

Hazel M. Leach, N. Y. State, '19, has been appointed assistant in the New York State library school.

Elsie Hay, Pratt '12, is organizing

the files and records of the National City Bank of New York.

Mary A. Johnson, Pratt '17, has left the New York public library to become assistant librarian at Madison, N. J.

Helen H. Morgan, Pratt '15, joined the staff of the Columbia university on the closing of the Hispanic Museum.

Mary Raymond (Simmons) has joined the staff of the catalog department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Genevieve Osborne Reilly, Pratt '16, resigned as assistant librarian at Madison, N. J., to become librarian at Bloomsburg, Pa.

Ruth S. Hull, Pratt '15, has been made librarian of the Department of labor and industry, Division of Municipal statistics, Harrisburg, Pa.

Anna Mary Magee (Wisconsin) joined the staff of the reference department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, August 1.

Amelia H. Robie, Pratt '14, formerly of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, has accepted a position on the Pratt Institute free library staff.

Nancy H. Todd, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '18, has joined the staff of the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh as first assistant in the Homewood branch.

Ruth E. Smith, N. Y. State, '19, has been appointed assistant in the Book Selection section of the New York state library.

Ruth Montgomery, N. Y. State, '17-'18, has received an appointment as first assistant in the Legislative reference section of the New York state library.

Julia Kerr (N. Y. S., '16) has resigned her position in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and has accepted a position as an assistant in the Schenley high school library, Pittsburgh.

Edith N. Grout, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '13, resigned her position with the Minneapolis public library to go to the New York public library as assistant in the Information department.

Olive Mayes, Pratt '13, resigned from the Alabama Girls' Technical library to go into Library War Service and is now librarian of the hospital at Camp Hancock, Ga.

Esther Raymond, Pratt '10, since graduation connected with the library of the American society of civil engineers, died at her home in Rochester September 9, 1918.

Evelyn Matthews, Pratt '17, for a year general assistant at the Osterhout library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has been appointed librarian of the State normal school, Indiana, Pa.

Caroline L. Jones, Pratt '13, has resigned the librarianship of the Hazelwood branch at Pittsburgh to become librarian at the Base Hospital No. 1 at Williamsbridge, New York City.

The Modern Institute of Mining Engineers of New York City received a bequest of \$166,000 by the will of the late James Douglas. The money is to be expended for a scientific library.

Elin Lindgren, Pratt '13, resigned from the Pratt Institute free library to take charge of the work with convalescent soldiers at the United States General Hospital No. 3, Colonia, N. J.

Anna May Pratt '11, children's librarian at the Public library, Mount Vernon, N. Y., for several years, has been appointed librarian at the New York General hospital No. 10, Fox Hills, Staten Island.

Mrs Gladys Schummers Vonhold Pratt '15, resigned as librarian of the Fair Haven branch, New Haven public library, and has joined the staff of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Anna G. Hall, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, resigned the librarianship of the Public library, Endicott, N. Y., to fill a year's engagement as library organizer for the Educational Extension division of the New York State education department.

Portia M. Conkling, Pratt '15, of the Troy public library, returns to the Pratt Institute free library as general assistant.

Agnes Cowing, Pratt '02, has been given a six months' leave of absence from the Pratt Institute free library to take charge of the Base Hospital library at Camp Merritt.

Louise Singley, first assistant in the schools division, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, has been granted a year's leave of absence to become hospital librarian at Camp Beauregard. Muriel Crooks (New York P. L.) succeeds her in Pittsburgh.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Public library of Utica, New York, was celebrated June 21. Its history has been one of steady progress and effective work and no institution in the city of Utica stands closer to the interests of its people than does the Public library.

Ruth E. Warrick, Simmons, '17, who spent last year in the Library school of the New York public library, took charge of the cataloging department of the Public library of Wichita, Kas., September 1. Janet Bryant, Pratt, '17, took charge of the children's work at the same time.

Caroline L. Jones resigned her position as branch librarian at the Hazelwood branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh to become hospital librarian at the United States General Hospital No. 1, New York City. Harriet Root, first assistant at the Wylie Avenue branch, becomes librarian of the Hazelwood branch.

Mrs Alice Haywood Johnston, wife of John M. Johnston, assistant librarian of Cooper's Union, New York, died August 14. Mrs Johnston was a graduate of the training class of the New York public library, '07, with which library she was connected until her marriage in 1911. She is survived by her husband, a daughter and a son.

Sarah V. Lewis has resigned her position as librarian of the Homewood branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, to become superintendent of circulation, Seattle public library. Miss Grace Endicott, first assistant in the children's de-

partment, succeeds Miss Lewis as branch librarian at Homewood. Nancy Todd (N. Y. S.) is to be first assistant.

The annual report of the Public library of Ilion, N. Y., records a year of unusual activity, largely connected with library war service. Registration, 4225; number of volumes on shelves, 17,605; circulation 66,984 V.; number of gifts during the year, 144 volumes. Two exhibits, one on coal and one on sugar, were held during the year.

Abraham Yarmolinsky became chief of the Slavonic division of the New York public library, June 15, taking the place of W. M. Petrovitch, who resigned to join the Serbian army. Mr Yarmolinsky is an author and translator of books from Russian into English. He was born in Russia, was graduated from the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, and later from the College of the City of New York.

The report of the Library of the Brooklyn Institute records number of users, 29,169; largest attendance, 4833. Considerable addition was made to the collection of pictures. Number of bound volumes in the library, 23,232. In addition to this there are several thousand pamphlets. This library took part in the general plan of raising money and books for camp libraries. The unit of workers carried off the banner for the Borough of Brooklyn in the matter of collection of war library funds.

The Free library, Endicott, N. Y., has moved to new quarters in a community house recently given the village by Mr and Mrs George F. Johnson. The library (about 7,000 V.) occupies the lower floor. The upper floors contain four club rooms, a kitchen and an assembly room seating 150. These rooms are under the supervision and control of the library, and are to be used by the people of the community and surrounding rural districts under the usual conditions.

Miss Margery Quigley of the St. Louis public library has been appointed librarian.

Central

Marie M. Santes, N. Y. State, '18, has gone to the University of Minnesota library as assistant cataloger.

Edith K. Van Eman, Pratt '13, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Oshkosh, Wis.

Zelma G. Kaiser, formerly of the Public library, Canton, Ohio, became assistant in the Adelbert College library September 1.

Helen Morse of Maquoketa, Iowa, was elected librarian of the Public library of Tipton, Iowa. She began work September 1.

Mrs Kate Poulson, for many years librarian at Greenfield, Indiana, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Bloomington, Indiana.

Miss Agnes McCrea resigned as librarian of the Public library of Brazil, Indiana, September 1, Mrs Guerna Gunnison was appointed her successor.

Miss Eva Cloud, librarian of Public library, Kewanee, Ill., was married September 19 to Dean W. Taylor, Ensign U. S. N. She will continue as librarian for the present.

Sarah F. Kountz, for some time superintendent of the circulation department of the Public library, Toledo, Ohio, was married in June to Gotthard Diethelm, Jr.

Bertha D. Elkin, of Hutchinson, Kansas, has joined the cataloging staff of the City library at Wichita. The library budget for Wichita has been increased \$2,500 for the year.

William E. Jillson, graduate of Brown university and the Wisconsin library school, is in charge of the Milwaukee war library, being formed in the interests of the future history of Milwaukee's activities in the war.

Miss Zana K. Miller, librarian at the Spies public library, Menominee, Michigan, resigned her position August 1 to become hospital librarian. Miss Miller was succeeded by Miss Cordelia Pleister of Sioux City, Iowa.

Ruth M. Wright, for some time librarian of the State normal school at Tempe, Arizona, resigned her position there in July and became librarian of the Brumback library of Van Wert County, Ohio.

Miss Lura E. Brubaker, Wisconsin '13, for some time librarian of the Public library at Escanaba, Michigan, was married, August 13 to Mr W. E. Munro. Mr and Mrs Munro are in Hoboken, N. J., where the former is in the naval service.

Ernst Hertzberg, a well-known and highly skillful binder in Chicago for many years, died June 21. Mr Hertzberg was long connected with the Ringer Bindery, and for more than 40 years his chief ambition was to produce good bindings.

The annual report of the Public library of Bay City, Michigan, records number of volumes, 43,004; circulation 71,799. There was an increase in circulation of over 3,000 volumes in the children's department. This was largely through the books supplied to the public schools of the city.

Miss Julia Rupp, for 8 years librarian of the Public library at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, resigned July 1 to become librarian of the LaSalle Institute, Chicago. Miss Edith van Eman of Leavenworth, Kansas, recently librarian of the Wiley Street branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, was appointed as Miss Rupp's successor.

Mrs L. M. Tweedy, librarian of the Public library of Cambridge City, Indiana, reports a successful closing of the fifth year of the institution. Number of books on the shelves, 5500; circulation, 41,046. There are 2 branches and 8 stations in the two townships attached. The library is housed in a rented store room, but they are hoping for a Carnegie building after the war is over. Two boxes of books were shipped to camp libraries and \$186 was raised for soldiers' books.

The library of Western Reserve university, Cleveland, has received from

Mrs Solon L. Severance, in memory of her husband, a fund amounting to \$10,000, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of reference books. This is the largest gift to the library in the history of the university, except the gift of the library building. A memorial book-plate is provided by Mrs Severance. Solon L. Severance, in whose memory the gift is made, was, up to the end of his life in 1915, one of Cleveland's leading citizens, prominent as a banker and philanthropist.

Helen M. Beale, recently promoted to be assistant librarian of the Adelbert College library, Cleveland, has been serving as acting librarian during the five months' absence of the librarian.

William H. Brett, for thirty-four years head of the Cleveland public library, died in that city August 24, as a result of being struck by an automobile driven by an intoxicated chauffeur. Mr Brett and Miss Eastman, his assistant, had just left the library after a conference with the head of the school board in regard to matters of common interest. Mr Brett was 72 years of age, but full of plans and activity not only for his own library in Cleveland but for the Library War Service. Ever since the A. L. A. meeting of 1917 he has devoted practically all of his spare time to the movement to supply the soldiers with books. He was a member of the War Council and took charge of the southern dispatch station where he did much valuable work in the overseas movement.

He became librarian of Cleveland, in 1884, and built up the library from a collection of about 45,000 volumes in the first year to the present number of 650,000, with distributing stations numbering 648, through which last year 3,400,000 books were circulated. This growth was largely due to his indefatigable energy and wide outlook in library lines. Mr Brett was a veteran of the Civil War, and is survived by his widow and three sons who are in the military service of their country, and a daughter whose husband is also enlisted.

The annual report of the public library of Milwaukee gives a record of progress.

During the last year the experiment of opening all the departments from 1:30 to 5:00 p. m., Sunday, has proved highly satisfactory. The great difficulty is securing a sufficient number of attendants has been a serious problem.

During the past year the library came farther under the direction of the Civil Service commission by being obliged to conduct its business on lines laid down for it by the Civil Service commission. Before 1918, the commission had confined its power to selecting eligible lists of employees. The library will attempt to avoid the inconvenience of the civil service requirements by inaugurating a training class in the library and also by trying to induce the Civil Service commission to place the graduating classes of the Wisconsin State library school on the eligible list of the commission.

A detailed account of the trust funds belonging to the library is an interesting item. It amounts to over \$20,000 at the present time with large expectations for the future.

The County branch system has been well established and is growing in favor.

The report of the librarian of Northwestern University library for the year 1917-18 is published in the *Bulletin*, V. 19, No. 9. The retiring librarian, Dr. Walter Lichtenstein, reviews the condition of the library from the beginning of his administration to the last year, when for financial reasons his connection with the institution was severed. The library has grown from 70,184 v. to 115,492 v. "Development has been greater qualitatively than it has been quantitatively." General works of reference needed by the library departments, bibliographies and handbooks for the various departments of learning, have been specially developed. A complete set of the Catalogue of Printed Books in the British Museum was secured as well as catalogs of a number of other large European libra-

ries and trade lists of various bookmarkets. The Union catalog contains cards from the Library of Congress, John Crerar library, Harvard, Chicago and California universities, the Newberry library, and until the outbreak of the war, the cards of the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels, and many other sources including the leading handbooks and catalogs of incunabula. An interesting account is given of the development of a policy connected with the library where a division of opinion regarding the desirability of maintaining a centralized library system existed. After considerable discussion among the various committees concerned, the principle of the centralized library was specifically approved. The best service of the library is hampered by a lack of room and the removal of the classical collections from the library to the departments is especially mentioned with regret. The removal of a number of books to seminar libraries in 10 years has increased eight-fold. The librarian has used the occasion of his departure from the institution to point out some of the weaknesses in the administration. In addition to those already mentioned, the lack of control over all the book resources of the University is emphasized.

The annual report of the Public library of Evanston, Illinois, states that the extension of the privileges of the library to parts of the city inadequately supplied before was the principal service of the year. Two new stations were opened, one in a school and another in a vacant store building. The adult circulation of the latter was larger than any of the others. Traveling libraries have been maintained in all public school buildings, many school rooms, Y. M. C. A. buildings, fire stations, light house and other places. South Branch was opened during the year, and has been greatly successful. Over 500 card holders were added during the year through this branch, in addition to a number who before had used the central library.

An increased capacity in the Central

library through new shelving for 15,000 volumes was achieved. The lobby has been utilized for bulletin boards and display tables. Considerable rearrangement of library material has been made, and new equipment provided.

The library has taken part in war publicity, and the food conservation movement has been especially active in the library. A series of food exhibits and food saving posters, an exhibit of war relief work, gifts for the camp libraries received attention in addition to the ordinary work of the library in records and distribution of material, which latter has shown a marked increase. Two conferences on children's reading held in the library were most successful. The home circulation showed an increase of nearly 20,000 volumes. Ten members of the staff are official members of the Illinois library association by vote of the board. The library also became a member of the Evanston Commercial association. The library has been rich in gifts received, the largest record in its history. More than 1500 volumes and more than 3000 pamphlets were presented.

South

Louise F. Encking, Pratt '07, has resigned from the librarianship of the Oshkosh normal school to accept that of the Normal school at Tempe, Arizona.

Miss Flora Lowrey has resigned as librarian of the Public library of Vernon, Texas. Miss Lillian Newton, a teacher in the public schools for a number of years, has been elected as her successor.

Marguerite Irish, St. Louis, '16, has resigned from the catalog department, St. Louis public library, to become assistant librarian at the Missouri State University school of mines and metallurgy at Rolla.

A very interesting exhibit of mounted butterflies loaned by the St. Louis Academy of Science was opened in the St. Louis public library, July 15 to August 15. Illustrated books on butterflies accompanied the exhibit.

An effort is being made to secure through the legislature of Louisiana, \$20,000 for the creation of a state-wide circulating library to be administered by the New Orleans public library under the direction of Henry M. Gill, librarian.

The Public library of Greenville, Miss., recently moved from the old building into their new home, through the wonderful efficiency and tireless energy of the Boy Scouts, who volunteered for the task. The weather was hot, the labor was hard, and there were a large number of heavy boxes, but never a scout grumbled or lost his temper.

Miss Elizabeth H. West, for some time librarian in San Antonio, Texas, resigned her position to become State librarian and secretary of the Texas library commission, September 1. There are now two women in charge of state departments in Texas for the first time in its history. They will be closely associated in their work, for Miss Annie W. Blanton, nominee for state superintendent of public instruction, on her induction into office will become an ex-officio member of the Texas library and historical commission, of which Miss West is secretary.

The annual report of the Public library of Louisville for the year just ended, shows a circulation of 1,008,735 V.; population 237,012; number of volumes on shelves, 211,221. The book circulation does not include the use of volumes in reference work or casual readers in reading rooms. The per cent of fiction is 56, the number of card holders, 54,749, which is 23 per cent of the population.

Many changes occurred in staff. C. E. Adelberg, Laura M. Fay, Hall Warren, Alice M. Vitz and Florrie Lee Taylor have resigned. Ten new appointments were made to the staff. Pearl Hinesley and Ruth Theobald were granted leave of absence to attend library school.

The following changes were made in the salary schedule: assistants increased from \$40 to \$60, senior assistants from \$65 to \$75, secretary and

bookkeeper from \$75 to \$100 and branch librarians from \$65 to \$85.

The contract for the county use of library privileges was renewed. There were eleven stations in the county, and 104 school room collections in 49 schools.

The total income of the year was \$111,152, the cost of maintenance, \$93,897. Of this latter, the book fund took \$16,465, salaries and janitor service, \$51,240.

The added financial responsibility of over \$8000 on account of a mortgage, the increased use of the library without an increased appropriation and the increased cost of every item, presents a problem in the effort to maintain library efficiency for the coming year.

West

Miss Jessie G. Glass, Illinois '17, has been appointed high school librarian at Lincoln, Nebraska.

Nephi and Tremonton, Utah, have each recently levied a library tax, thus giving Utah thirty-six towns with library tax support.

A. D. Keator was elected librarian of the University of North Dakota. During July and August Mr Keator was assistant in the library at Camp Humphreys, Virginia.

W. E. Fearis has been appointed county librarian of Big Horn County, Montana, salary \$1,500 a year. Mr Fearis has been librarian of the Public library of Hastings, that county, for 8 years.

Miss Elsa Wigginhorn has been elected assistant in the Billings (Mont.) memorial library. She succeeds Miss Beatrice Snow who has resigned to enter Western Reserve university.

Miss Grace Stoddard, for 14 years in charge of the Public library of Missoula, Montana, has resigned and returned to her home, Winchester, Massachusetts. Under her supervision, the library has grown from 6000 volumes to 20,000. The county service has been

installed and much good work done. Miss Stoddard will be succeeded by Miss Ruth Worden of Missoula, who has been in the Buffalo public library for some time.

The annual report of the Great Falls public library shows a continuation of the progress which marked the year previous, the total circulation being 123,664 v.

There are 23,067 v. on the shelves, 4238 having been added during the year, a registration of approximately 11,398, and an appropriation of a mill, which amounts to about \$16,000.

Special work is done with the schools, five branches having been established, and instruction in the use of the library given to the high school classes.

The fifteenth report of the Parmly Billings Memorial library of Billings, Mont., for the past two years, records a time of progress. The building has been put in order, a considerable amount of new furniture and fittings been added, and new club rooms opened. A large number of clubs and societies are constantly using these rooms. The circulation increased more than 5,000 volumes each year. The total circulation for the last year was 76,454. The work with the schools advanced greatly, due to the aid of trained workers. A book exhibition was held at the library in 1916 showing good editions of special books for children. In 1917 Miss Fisher, children's librarian, spent two hours an afternoon for a week at the leading bookstore, helping to choose good books for those who wished to buy for their children. Circulation of books through the schools for the last year was 33,522. Deposit stations throughout the community show a great need for county library organization. The librarian, Mrs H. E. Garber, (formerly Elizabeth Abbott of South Bend, Indiana), gives high praise to the ability of and effective work done by the members of her staff. Receipts for the year 1917, \$14,639.

Pacific Coast

An advance in salary aggregating \$1,350 a month beginning September 1, has been voted to the staff of the Public library of Portland, Ore.

Edna L. Goss, Illinois, '02, has resigned her position as head cataloger in the University of Minnesota, and joined the staff of the cataloging department of Leland Stanford university, California.

Zulema Kostomlatsky, N. Y. State, '12-'13, has resigned her position as chief of the Circulation department of the Seattle public library to become assistant librarian of the Library association, Portland, Ore.

An increase in salary has been voted to the staff of the Tacoma public library, which will result in an increase of practically \$1,200 for the balance of the year. The following appointments have been made: Miss Mary Arney, Washington, '18; Jeannette Hitchcock, Washington, '18; Mrs Winifred Godwin, formerly librarian at Monrovia, Calif.

The annual report of the A. K. Smiley public library, Redlands, California, records number of books on the shelves, 32,655; of which 1,637 were added during the year; pamphlets, 14,234; registration, 6,514; population, 10,000; circulation, 120,658; fiction, 78,352. Receipts, \$16,396; expenditures, \$10,934, of which \$5,395 is for library salaries. War work was the outstanding feature of the year.

Canada

George H. Locke, chief librarian of Toronto, has been appointed by the Privy Council of the Dominion Government, Associate Director of Public Information for the Dominion of Canada (\$1 per annum).

Mr Locke has been a strong force in civic enlightenment in Toronto and now his field of usefulness has been enlarged from the city to the nation.

The annual report of the Carnegie library of Ottawa, Ont., is a record of progress and extension. Books circulated, 249,422, a gain of 9,428. This with the material used in the schools brought

the circulation well over the quarter million. Several new agencies of distribution were opened during the year. The number of persons using the various reading rooms was 188,049, a gain of 36,794. A Carnegie gift of \$15,000 was received for a new building for the West End branch. A larger reading room for the Central library is asked for, an increased book fund and a new branch with both French and English literature. The report calls attention to the fact that cities in Ontario having a population of over 100,000 levy only one-quarter of a mill for library support. Few libraries get along on so small a rate. An appeal is made to the wealthy citizens of Ottawa for an endowment fund to supplement the annual appropriations for books.

Foreign

The library work of England has sustained a distinct loss in the death of Miss Ethel Winifred Austin, well known as the very efficient librarian of the National lending library for the blind. She was appointed librarian in 1906 and developed in her work a leadership and effectiveness that were not exceeded by any of her confrères.

A note from Mr J. C. Kudalkar of the Central library department, Baroda, India, says that he is about to bring out a book on Baroda libraries, giving a full account of the origin and progress of free libraries in Baroda up-to-date. There will be pictures of typical libraries and plans of the new central library building that is to be built after the war. Mr Kudalkar, it will be remembered, spent some months studying library systems in the United States, and as might be expected, his keen, alert mind has turned to good use the result of his observation in working out the development of public library service in Baroda. He is joint editor of *Library Miscellany*, which gives in bi-lingual presentation, aid to developing library service not only in Baroda but in other Indian states.

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